Daily Report

Latin America

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Rio Group To Back Money Laundering Proposal at Summit

PA0612224194 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1703 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 6 Dec (NOTIMEX)—The Rio Group has supported the anti-money laundering proposal that Colombia will present at the Summit of the Americas, which begins this Friday in Miami, Florida, newspaper sources reported today.

Colombian diplomats, cited by Santa Fe de Bogota's EL TIEMPO newspaper, said that at meetings previewing the summit, the Rio Group endorsed the initiative the Colombian delegation presented to experts from 19 countries who have been meeting in the past few weeks.

President Ernesto Samper's proposal includes the signing of an "American Convention Against Money Laundering" by the nations of the Western Hemisphere in 1997 and the ensuing adherence by all of the countries of the world in 1998, the source explained.

The source also confirmed that the Declaration of Principles to be issued at the summit "is a political-philosophical document" in which the heads of state will outline their views on 12 issues, including trade, the promotion of democracy, the struggle against corruption, science and technology, education, and health. It also includes views on the environment, promotion of small businesses, drug trafficking, money laundering, sustainable human development, end energy, the newspaper reported.

According to experts who requested anonymity, the 34 presidents attending the Miami summit will establish a specific Plan of Action with programs ranging from one to two years and a follow-up schedule that will be implemented via international organizations.

"It is a very down-to-earth and well-thought-out Plan of Action on issues that have already been extensively discussed at the deputy ministerial level at meetings held in Washington last week to finalize the documents the presidents will discuss and sign," the report added.

The Rio Group, which according to "EL TIEMPO" endorsed Colombia's anti-drug initiative, comprises Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Uruguay, Panama, Mexico, and one representative for Central America and another for the Caribbean.

The source also revealed that one of the summit's hypotheses concerning free trade is an announcement by the summit's host, President Bill Clinton, proclaiming NAFTA open to Chile—the country that heads the list of nations that may join the accord.

Central America To Request 'Special Membership' in NAFTA

PA0612230394 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2004 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—An official Honduran source today confirmed that at the Summit of the Americas, Central America will request that the region be admitted into NAFTA with "special membership" status. The summit will take place in Miami, United States, between 9-11 December.

Delmer Urbizo Panting, the Honduran economy and commerce minister, said this proposal will be forwarded by the Central American nations. The decision was reached at a meeting of the region's economy ministers in Miami last weekend.

The ministers also signed a document concerning the "Alliance for Sustainable Development." This alliance was agreed upon by the region's presidents at the Managua and Tegucigalpa summits in October and is part of a change in the region's agenda for the 21st century.

Panting indicated that the summit's agenda not only deals with economic matters, but also with political, cultural, and social matters. Nevertheless, the most immediate problem in all Central American countries is the economic crisis resulting from the implementation of NAFTA among the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

The Honduran economy minister said: "We will tell U.S. President Bill Clinton about the harm NAFTA is causing the isthmus."

Diminishing investments is one problem facing the region's economies, as investors begin to find the Mexican market much more attractive.

Central America favors the "elimination" of tax barriers to enable the region's products to enter the large markets of the three great northern nations with little or no problems, the official said.

Panting pointed out that the Temporary Trade Program (PIC) will not be discussed at the Summit of the Americas. The program promotes textile exports from Central America and the Caribbean. Another issue currently being discussed between the United States and the Central American nations that will not be debated among the 34 nations gathered at the summit is the investment plan.

Argentina, Brazil To Promote Free Trade at Summit

PY0712010694 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0011 GMT 7 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (TELAM)—Argentina and Brazil today agreed that at the Miami summit to support the initiative calling for free trade throughout the entire continent, but without establishing deadlines to achieve this goal.

A high-ranking Foreign Ministry source today told TELAM: "The agreement involves a shared strategy to achieve unanimous approval of this proposal for the economic development of the nations of our continent."

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Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella tonight arrived in Brasilia to discuss the institutional implementation of Mercosur [Common Market of the South] with his counterparts from Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Di Tella will dine today with Foreign Minister Celso Amorim. He will also take this opportunity to discuss with Amorim the issues that Argentina and Brazil will support at the summit.

Since the start of the discussions on the summit agenda, Argentina has favored the removal of tariff barriers and free trade from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego by the year 2006.

Argentine President Carlos Menem announced a few days ago that this trade proposal would be a prominent issue in his speeches.

Foreign Ministry sources noted that Brazil objected to deadlines that would compromise the development of its own trade programs. To explain our main Mercosur partner's reluctance, a high-ranking Foreign Ministry source noted: "With the real program, Brazil is just beginning to tread the economic opening path that Argentina has been treading for two years."

For different reasons, Mexico also challenged the establishing of deadlines for deregulating continental trade.

The source noted: "That country (Mexico) is trying to take the greatest advantage possible from its participation in NAFTA, with the United States and Canada."

Indian Groups Coordinate Summit Position

PA0612215194 Paris AFP in Spanish 1825 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Quito, 6 Dec (AFP)—Among the issues at the Miami hemispheric summit supported by American Indians will be constitutional reforms regarding individual rights, land rights, and mechanisms to guarantee enviornmental protection and balanced development, thereby preventing international looting.

Ecuadoran Valerio Grefa, the general director of the Coordinating Board of Amazon Basin Indian Organizations [COICA]—an organization that oversees Indian groups from nine nations—told AFP that the natives of the region are striving for unanimity from all sectors during the Decade of the Indian, which will begin 10 December by a UN mandate.

Grefa recalled that during a regional conference on 28-30 November in Santa Fe de Bogota, leaders who represented some 8 million Indians across the region agreed to support the fundamental rights of Indian peoples, including plans to influence governments, international organizations, and cooperation agencies, along with activities the Indians will undertake within their own organizations.

In Santa Fe de Bogota, the Indians agreed to request the return of territories their ancestors occupied and to call for autonomy, free determination within national states, the right to their own language and culture, and the exercise their own systems of justice, among other issues. They plan to demand that these goals be realized during the Decade of the Indian.

Orlandino Melgueiro, representative of the Coordinating Board of Indian Organizations of the Amazon; Abadio Green, president of the Organization of Indian Nationalities of Colombia; and Marcial Arias, president of the Napguana Association of Kuna Indians of Panama, were appointed delegates to the Miami summit.

"Our basic and fundamental rights include the right to territory—a right in which the life of our people begins and ends," Grefa emphasized, noting that constant cutbacks in the territorial possessions of Indians have led to the extermination of entire tribes.

He explained that while the constitutions of the nations of the region give minimal consideration to individual and personal rights, "they completely ignore the right to live collectively in harmony, a right of joint ownership, and the right to live in a communitarian spirit."

He stressed: "Therefore, the constitutions ignore us. We then demand that the governments incorporate into their constitutions collective laws that acknowledge our territories—lands in which we can continue developing freely and autonomously and contribute to society."

Regarding NAFTA, which he agrees will eventually be hemispheric, Grefa said COICA and other Indian organizations believe the trade pact will be the second stage in a reduction of sovereignty and the consolidation of monopolies, adding that this will first be felt in the natural resources that today are in Indian territories.

"Those sectors we cannot compete against under current conditions will simply transform us into beasts of burden and cheap manual labor, which is why we oppose this agreement that will also facilitate the invasion of our territories and the redoubled sacking of our natural environment," he added, recalling that this what had been agreed upon unanimously at the meeting in Santa Fe de Bogota.

Governments, before implementing monopolies, should first see what is going to occur to the Indian people and their resources, what effect this will have on the environment, and what will happen to small parcels of community lands in various nations.

He continued by recalling what is happening in southern Mexico with the Indian people in the state of Chiapas, and he pointed to poverty belts that are springing up in cities throughout the region. Because of this, Grefa said: "We met in Santa Fe Bogota not only to weep, but also to establish our own commitments within our towns."

We also met "to ask the United Nations and OAS to allow us to sit down at bargaining tables where, as true representatives, we might modestly expound on our problems and express our opinions," he said.

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Grefa added: "We do not want to continue being anonymous. Instead, we want to achieve, once and for all, recognition for the Indian people's contributions in the areas of conservation, harmony with natural resources and the environment, and the sustained growth of humanity."

COICA represents the Amazonian peoples of the Amazon Basin; that is, nine countries with 400 different Indian tribes with a total population of 1.5 million people who speak 385 different languages. Citing these statistics, Grefa said the regional Indians have every right to participate in this week's hemispheric summit in Miami.

Miami Summit To Build 'New Path' for Hemisperic Ties

PY0512181794 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1732 GMT 3 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Santiago, 3 Dec (EFE)—Gert Rosenthal, Guatemalan secretary general of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), said today that the summit of the Americas scheduled to be held in Miami between 9 and 10 December will help build a new path for relations among the American nations.

According to the ECLA secretary, this summit, summoned by U.S. President Bill Clinton, is "historic" because "it is the first meeting of chiefs of state in the post-Cold War era."

He added that "inter-American relations have changed so much since 1989 to this date that the term 'historic' is appropriate not so much because this could become a meeting at which great announcements are made, but because the context has changed."

The time has come for a top-level meeting to review the goals of inter-American relations, as this has not been done since 1967 in Punta del Este (Uruguay), Rosenthal said, in an interview published today by the newspaper EL MERCURIO.

He added that "the world has changed a lot since the end of the Cold War. From then on, inter-American relations have had as their basis the commercial and social areas."

According to Rosenthal, the three great issues to be discussed at the Miami summit are, first, "commerce and financing; second, a subject introduced by the United States, 'governability and democracy'; and third, essential subjects for hemispherical relations: drugs, migration, and crime."

Asked about ECLA's contribution to this summit, he said that "this organization is attending the conference as a guest, the same as the IDB, the OAS, and the Pan-American Health Organization, to follow the decisions that might be adopted. The governments are taking great proposals to the summit."

Concerning Cuba's absence from this summit, Rosenthal said: "We would have liked to have seen Cuba present, and I think this is the point of view of most Latin American governments, as it is not for differences in the Cuban political system that they cease talking with that country: They want Cuba to be reinstated into the family of democratic nations."

Asked about what might cause this meeting of 34 presidents to be a success or a failure, he said that "it would be very difficult for this meeting to be a failure. You cannot put 34 chiefs of state in a situation so different from their last meeting and declare it a failure."

He said that the presidents "have something to say to each other in this new context. Even if it is simply to get to know one another, the meeting is justified. But for it to be a great success, inter-American relations must be placed on a new path, though not through leaving the meeting with a very strict schedule."

"Plans with too many details and specific goals no longer cause any impression in the world. General guidelines are offered instead," he said.

Rosenthal finally explained that "if anyone is hoping for a new constitution of inter-American relations, he will not see it."

Envoy Denies U.S. 'Dictating' Summit Agenda

FL0612183894 Bridgetown CANA in English 1544 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 6, CANA—United States top diplomat in Guyana, Ambassador George Fleming Jones Monday brushed aside suggestions that U.S. organisers were dictating the issues to be tabled for discussion at this weekend's Summit of the Americas in Miami.

Ambassador Jones, at a news briefing, told reporters the contents of the agenda, declaration of principles and the plan of action heavily reflect the contributions, proposals and suggestions of the 34 nations attending the three-day summit hosted by U.S. President Bill Clinton. "I would encourage you in the thought that although the summit was an American proposal, the content of the document very heavily reflects from beginning to end, contributions, proposals, suggestions that have been made by all of the 34 participating countries," Jones said.

The U.S. diplomat stressed this included not only individual countries, but regional groups such as Caricom (Caribbean Community). "We have had at least four separate meetings with the Caricom group. As such, all of the various drafts of the summit documents have been made available to the Caricom secretariat as we have gone along, and as you know....Very detailed comments and proposals were received from Caricom," the U.S. official told reporters.

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Ambassador Jones said he had heard and read comments about the summit in the press which he described as "very unrealistic".

"One of them is that there should be included in the summit documents proposals that very clearly do not have the support of every country in the hemisphere. And the other is there should be excluded and dropped out of the summit items which are not of tremendous interest of the Caribbean." He noted that this comment is most frequently made in relation to the, "third theme of democracy and good governance" since the English-speaking Caribbean countries, the members of Caricom are fortunate enough to enjoy democracy and good governance. He said the press has been asking why should this be a topic for the summit. "The answers to those two comments ought to be obvious. Topics on which the 34 countries are not in agreement are obviously going to be dropped out of the summit documents because the documents have to be signed by the 34 chiefs of state," Jones said. He said in this case, issues on which (?they) are unable to come to agreement cannot be included in the documents. "That doesn't mean that they would not be discussed around the table at the summit."

Jones stressed that every head of state will be free to bring up any subject he wishes to bring up, "either by scheduling a presentation ahead of time or simply intervening when the opportunity comes for a free exchange of views".

"The whole reason why the United States chose to hold the summit at this time is because we are now in a situation which has not existed for many years, where there is such a large area of agreement among our thirty four governments," he argued.

The ambassador described as equally naive questions raised as to why a session would be spent on the importance on sustaining democracy when all 34 government have democracy. "A moment's thought will indicate that democracy is considerably less firmly rooted, has considerably less years to its credit in a number of countries in the region than it does in the English speaking Caribbean, the United States and Canada," Jones said. He said measures to ensure that democracy endures in the hemisphere is "an extremely important topic at the summit".

Officials from the Georgetown-based Caricom (Caribbean Community) secretariat have in the past two months complained about the process being used by U.S. organisers to select items for the summit's agenda and the declaration of principles. But, Jones cited the inclusion of a proposal by Trinidad and Tobago on micro-enterprises and another by Argentina calling for the setting up of a hemispheric-wide volunteer force to respond to disasters and crises in the region as examples of a fair agenda.

Barbados' Prime Minister, Owen Arthur will speak on behalf of Caricom countries attending the summit and his Canadian counterpart Jean Chretien will represent North America.

Mercosur Informatics Copyright Laws Remain Undefined

PY0612172394 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2059 GMT 5 Dec 94

[Report by Denize Dacoccina]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sao Paulo, 5 Dec (AE)—Mercosur [Common Market of the South] will be implemented on 1 January without any definitive laws for copyright and intellectual property rights on informatics. The only definition so far has been the zero tax for business between Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay, although each country has its own different tax for software and hardware imported from other countries. "Informatics is Mercosur's most complicated area," says lawyer Manoel Antonio dos Santos, an informatics enterprise specialist. Today he joined a debate on the subject during the Eighth International Seminar on Informatics and Telecommunications Rights, sponsored by the Brazilian Association of Informatics and Telecommunications Rights (ABBI) [Associacao Brasileira de Direitos de Informatica e Telecomunicacao] which is being held at Transatlantico Club in Sao Paulo and will end tomorrow.

The most recent document on copyright and informatics rights was approved at a meeting in Asuncion, Paraguay, last week, but it has not yet been approved by the Argentine Government. Assuming that a final agreement will not be reached within a month, the Mercosur Quadripartite Commission for Protection of Intellectual Property Rights has already asked for an extension of the deadline. The document establishes a 60-year term for ownership of software (in Brazil, the term had been 25 years), and permits changes in the program for adjustment to the specific needs of the enterprises that buy it. "Brazil has begun to adapt itself to international laws," Santos said.

The import tariff for products from other countries, which is currently different for each Mercosur member, is following a timetable toward the common 16 percent tariff in 2006. The tariff is now 35 percent in Brazil, 20 percent in Uruguay, 6 percent in Paraguay, and zero in Argentina.

Brazil is also getting ready to export software. Softex 2000, a government project, expects to account for 1 percent of world exports in 2000. This is equivalent to $2 billion. Currently, registered Brazilian exports do not reach $500,000. Carlos Alberto Sacco, president of the Brazilian Association of Software Enterprises (AMES), believes the target is too ambitious for such a short period. "Brazil needs an export tradition, a good image abroad," he claims. Piracy, which used to account for

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100 percent of the Brazilian market, stood at 83 percent in 1993 and should reach 80 percent this year. The official software market will then go from $120 million to $150 million. The target, according to Sacco, is to reach the U.S. piracy rate of 35 percent.

Common Market Group Progresses on Mercosur Customs Unity

PY0712030094 Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 5 Dec 94 pp 1, 3

[Article by Livio Ferrari]

[FBIS Translated Text] Rio de Janeiro—Following intense negotiations, the Common Market Group [Grupo Mercado Comum—GMC], which met in Rio de Janeiro on 1 and 2 December, attained considerable progress in the implementation of a customs unity as of 1 January 1995 within the Common Market of the South (Mercosur).

Practically all the discrepancies regarding the definition of the Common External Tariff (TEC) were resolved. The TEC is the Mercosur import tariff for agricultural and livestock products from third countries (Chapters 1 to 24 of the list of products).

Beside this, the four member countries presented their own lists of products they want to place on the list of the Mercosur harmonization system (which is a list of products traded among the Mercosur member countries that will not immediately receive preferential import-tariff reduction benefits). The Brazilian list, which is the shortest among the member countries, has 29 products, including peaches, wine, rubber, and woolen textiles.

These lists exchanged among the Mercosur member countries must still be submitted to another analysis before approval at the next GMC meeting, which will take place on 14 and 15 December in Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, prior to the Mercosur presidential summit in Ouro Preto on 17 December.

According to Ambassador Jose Arthur Denot Medeiros, Brazilian Foreign Ministry integration affairs general under secretary, the negotiators in Rio approved by consensus a proposal presented by the Argentine delegation to make the harmonization system more flexible and to admit the possibility of either temporarily or definitively excluding products before the terms of the exception lists expire (January 1999).

The group of negotiators also made progress on specific points, such as approval of the Brazilian proposal to adopt a zero import tariff for condoms.

"The TEC for the importation of condoms will remain at 10 percent, but the zero tariff will come into effect to meet the public health policy goals," said Brazilian Foreign Trade Secretary Jorge Chami Batista.

Sugar also ceased to be a point of conflict among the GMC members. They agreed that the treatment to be given to sugar and related by-products in the Mercosur will be defined by 1995. A specific work group was created to solve this problem.

The GMC meeting was not able to make a decision on car products (cars, spare parts, bus and truck parts, and components). Finance Ministry Economic Policy Secretary Winston Frischt says he believes they will find a negotiated solution during the meeting between Brazilian Finance Minister Ciro Gomes and Argentine Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo slated for 8 December in Buenos Aires. Frischt believes that the problems regarding car products may be resolved before the Ouro Preto summit is held. Argentina complains about the Brazilian tax exemption on inexpensive cars, while Brazil complains about the fiscal benefits granted by the Argentine Government to its car industry.

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Cuba

Panel Says U.S. To Exploit Summit To Control Region

FL0612191694 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Dec 94

[Report by Tania Diegas from the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Specialists from the Center for American Studies headed a panel of academics discussing the upcoming hemispheric summit to be held 9-11 December in Miami.

The scholars, along with journalists and diplomats, discussed summit agenda items and the challenges they present to inter-American relations. There was a agreement that the U.S. will use the Miami summit to gain as much control as possible over regional nations to satisfy their own economic needs. Likewise, Washington will try to re-establish its deteriorated dominance in the new political and economical world system. The summit was chosen to relaunch U.S. economic policies which will emphasize its investment in the area. It is supposed that in the Miami meeting bilateral meetings will predominate, therefore leaving little time for collective discussion among the nations of a region in which 70 percent of the population is poor.

Association Issues Open Letter to Summit Presidents

PA0712143994 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1300 GMT 7 Dec 94

[From the "Morning Information Review" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The recently created Association for the Unity of Our America has issued in Havana an open letter addressed to the presidents preparing to attend the hemispheric summit to take place in Miami. The letter warns of the perils the gathering represents to the future of Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, the letter states the countries of the region should be skeptical of a summit from which Cuba was oddly excluded.

Cuba, the letter stresses, is a nation enduring a blockade imposed by the United States despite this country having been condemned on three consecutive occasions by the UN General Assembly.

NTV Discusses Summit Priorities, NAFTA, GATT

FL0612154194 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Dec 94

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Thursday, the Miami summit organized by the United States, will find its Latin American and Caribbean guests receptive to strategic plans in light of the current world situation.

However, they will also find differences in several areas. Today, just hours from the summit, the U.S. State Department is still debating whether to include extending the mechanisms of NAFTA to the full hemisphere in the final resolution. This is the hope of the countries in the area. The discord on this issue has created skepticism among several of the participants, including Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori, who stated: the summit will not contribute anything important to the region.

The White House wants to emphasize its idea of a representative democracy, which it promotes as if it were the key to unlocking the neo-liberal door of confusion behind which the regional economies lie. They also pursue the reorganization of the hemisphere's defense system through the strengthening the Organization of American States, thereby converting interventions into something collective, and thus adversely affecting the principles of sovereignty and auto determination.

The guests would rather have solutions to development problems instead of wasting time debating strange concepts like collective security. Another thing, the Caribbean feels [word indistinct], notwithstanding its ratification of GATT at the Uruguay round, which created the world trade organization, the United States tends toward protectionism. Therefore, the guests' hopes rest on being able to exploit the vulnerability of the White House since the Democratic Party's loss in the 8 November elections. However, if they are going to say amen to Washington, they are not going to get anything.

Summit Agenda Proposed by U.S. Called 'Joke'

FL0612164394

[FBIS Editorial Report] Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish at 1255 GMT on 6 December carries its customary "Our Opinion" commentary by reporter Eduardo Dimas. Dimas begins by saying that a country shapes its foreign policy according to the world's changing conditions, and that the world powers "can change tactics very easily without changing their goals."

Dimas states that U.S. tactics have changed during the 171 years since President James Monroe created the slogan "America for Americans"; however, "the strategic goal of the United States to rule America is the same." He goes on to cite cases of U.S. intervention throughout history, and political and economic pressures to "fortify and consolidate the strategic goal of America for Americans." In this context, it is clear that the establishment is not pleased with Ibero-American summits, and "tries to neutralize or eliminate them by organizing its own Miami Summit of the Americas."

Dimas adds that the new Pan American order proposed by the United States has the same old goals, under the new conditions of a global economy, where Latin America becomes a market to sell all the products which

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cannot be sold elsewhere because of competition—in other words: "a secure market of 450 million consumers, and cheap labor."

The Miami summit will address many important issues; however, "the agenda proposed by the United States is rather a joke. It aims to keep things the way they are, instead of finding real solutions to the acute Latin American problems."

Dimas notes that Latin America unfortunately goes to the summit without having achieved economic or political integration on common but non-coordinated interests; and with powerful national sectors, which are interested in increasing dependency to the United States. "As in similar past opportunities, the United States will be able to use its huge economic and political weight bilaterally, country by country, to achieve its goals."

Dimas cites Marti, saying that if he were alive, he would be very concerned about the upcoming Miami summit. He also recalls the words Marti spoke in 1891—on the occasion of the monetary conference of the Americas, regarding tactics used by powerful nations to dominate other countries. Marti's quote ends: "if there is a duty for the family of American republics, certainly it is not to be herded by one of them."

Dimas adds that unfortunately Marti's words are still valid, and he hopes that the Miami summit will not convert Latin people into merely a herd for the United States.

Article Comments on 'Oddities' of Miami Summit

PA0612215494 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1818 GMT 6 Dec 94

[By Javier Rodriguez: "Summit Oddities"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Havana, 6 Dec (PL)—There is a flurry of activity in the United States, especially in Miami, the location chosen by the U.S. Government for a meeting of Latin American presidents, with the explicit exception of Cuba's head of state.

News agency reports indicate that protocol activities are multiplying so the summit will have the greatest possible publicity as a demonstration that the White House has now decided to give as much attention as possible to the countries to the south, always burdened by Washington's perennial neglect.

Aside from the efforts of U.S. officials to procure a new image for the U.S. President and beyond the integrationist slogans made public to "enhance" the so-called hemispheric summit, some intriguing oddities are already setting the stage for the summit.

One facet is the anti-Cuban demonstrations being prepared by Miami's most conservative organizations, which are trying to attract the attention of the Latin American chiefs of state to ask them to discuss Cuba without Cuba even being present at the summit.

A recent news agency report from Miami indicates that these groups are prepared to stage careful, civilized, and nonviolent demonstrations to express their positions against the island.

None other than Orlando Bosch, who now lives in Miami but served 11 years in a Venezuelan prison after being convicted of masterminding the 1976 explosion of a Cuban airplane over Barbados, causing the death of 73 persons, has talked with the media as the spokesman of an allegedly moderate current.

Now a prophet of peace, Bosch is apparently asking that as a homage to the summit organized by President William Clinton, everyone forget the tragic reminders of a passenger aircraft full of young Cuban athletes who were returning to Cuba with deserved medals but were blown to pieces in midair.

Another oddity coming shortly before the meeting is Argentine President Carlos Menem's resumption of his public attacks on Cuba, saying that he will insist on launching these attacks at a meeting that Cuba will not attend and therefore will be unable to express its point of view.

Paradoxically, Menem's is causing this uproar at a time when his government is being affected by certain situations. Argentina is rocked by protests by retired people who have been affected by the economy; by the church, which is demanding a humanization of the established economic adjustment; and by labor unions, which are facing the largest unemployment level in that country's history.

This is not all Menem will do during the three-day summit, according to news agencies.

The Argentine president will stay in the luxurious Biltmore Hotel so he may have uninterrupted use of the hotel's large golf course, which will be closed to other guests so Menem may practice one of his favorite pastimes.

So Menem may be as comfortable as possible, the hotel management, through its spokesperson, Stephanie Hofneister, has said that it has reserved for him a splendid suite once occupied by Al Capone, a U.S. mafia boss, another oddity of this presidential summit.

Finally, another singular characteristic of this event: The summit is almost here, and it still does not have an agenda. This is a very weird situation that critics see as an expression of a U.S. policy that has very little to say to Latin America and the Caribbean.

Foreign Minister Arrives in Algiers for Official Visit

PA0612191994 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1516 GMT 6 Dec 94

["Algeria-Cuba: Cuban Foreign Minister Initiates Official Visit to Algeria"—PRENSA LATINA headline]

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[FBIS Translated Text] Algiers, 6 Dec (PL)—Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina arrived in this capital today for an official visit during which he will be received by Algerian President Liamine Zeroual.

Robaina will also meet with Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi and Abdelkade Bensalah, chairman of the National Transition Council (an organization legislative in nature) according to official sources.

The Cuban foreign minister will also meet with Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Salah Dembri, who will be his main host, and other leaders of the Maghrebian giant.

Algiers is Robaina's first stop in the tour the Cuban foreign minister has initiated through northern Africa and the Middle East to strengthen ties with the countries of those regions.

The tour will also include Tunisia, Libya, Jordan, Syria, Egypt, and Iran.

The objectives of Robaina's trip include reporting to his hosts on Cuba's situation and what the people of the Caribbean island are doing to overcome difficulties resulting from the blockade imposed by the United States more than 30 years ago, a blockade that has been intensified in recent times.

Costa Rican President Sees Gradual Resumption of Ties

FL0712000294 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Dec 94

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Costa Rican authorities today announced that it will open an office for migratory issues in Cuba in January, 1995, to operate in conjunction with the Spanish Embassy in Cuba. The decision was announced after Cuban President Fidel Castro met with Costa Rican President Jose Maria Figueres in Mexico City. Figueres described their meeting as cordial and friendly. Regarding the possibility of resuming diplomatic relations between the two nations, Figueres said there is no reason to rush into resuming them.

Czech Republic Seeks To Invest in Nickel, Energy

FL0612230894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Dec 94

[From the "National Radio News"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Czech Deputy Foreign Minister Pavel Bratinka recalled that the balance of trade between his country and Cuba was at one time approximately $50 million. Bratinka stated that his government is interested in increasing its investments in Cuba. At the end of his visit, during a meeting with the press, Bratinka admitted that relations between Cuba and the Czech Republic had weakened since the changes that his country had experienced, but he highlighted the Czech Government's will to initiate recovery of those relations. According to Bratinka, there is interest in the nickel and energy sectors. Cuban authorities have received a proposed trade accord and another for the promotion and protection of investments, which may be signed shortly. Trade between Cuba and the Czech Republic is currently at a mere $5 million per year.

During his two-day stay in Havana City, Bratinka met with Ricardo Cabrisas, foreign trade minister; Ernesto Melendez, foreign investment and economic cooperation minister; Isabel Allende, acting foreign minister; and other authorities.

DPRK Delegation Tours Health, Military Facilities

FL0712000394 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Dec 94

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The North Korean delegation headed by Air Force Commander Cho Myong-nok will leave Cuba tomorrow. The North Korean military delegation today visited a preventative health facility in the western territory, where Air Force pilots improve their physical and psychological capacities in yearly, 15-day cycles. The North Korean delegation arrived in Cuba last week at the invitation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and has completed an intense work schedule at antiaircraft defense and Revolutionary Air Force facilities and units.

Commentary on Need To Phase Out Subsidies

FL0712013894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Dec 94

[Commentary by Nestor Nunez; from the "Doing Radio" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Cuban economic authorities' proposal to quickly eliminate subsidies is very important because of losses in recent years among the various sectors, until the principle of removing inefficient workers could be implemented in an adequate and studied manner.

The issue of subsidies is essential because unfortunately, the use of subsidies had expanded. An economy paying millions of pesos to different sectors because of inefficiency, and lack of ability to survive, precipitates immediate bankruptcy. It is feeding a useless person who does not perform his duties, is a permanent burden, and becomes an obstacle.

There are of course—people are right about this—sectors that need to continue receiving subsidies for some time. Some have historically never shown a profit, but are still essential to the normal development of Cuban life. Others need to gradually adapt to the new policy through a recovery process that cannot be expected overnight.

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It is surprising, however, and makes you wonder that there are sectors that suddenly want to end subsidies because they have discovered that they can be efficient, which had never happened before. This points to the past to indicate that not all potential had been used with vital seriousness and efficiency.

It is therefore very important to overcome our limitations, to search intently for unexplored possibilities or alternatives previously left to chance. These are small springs that could achieve near miracles, huge leaps, when operating together during hard times.

The economic discipline currently being implemented, somewhat forced by circumstance, has shown that we could have accomplished more during easier times, that perhaps people grew weaker by degrees, and did not make enough effort because of their trust in the battery of resources that had been available in Cuba for many years.

Belt tightening has finally begun to reveal virtues, undoubtedly a positive, encouraging result.

Dominican Republic

President Balaguer To Attend Miami Summit, Depart 9 Dec

PA0612235094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2113 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Santo Domingo, 6 Dec (EFE)—A Presidential Palace official today confirmed to EFE that Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer will attend the Summit of the Americas, which will be held on 9-11 December in Miami (United States).

The aging president will travel in a private jet owned by Vice President Jacinto Peynado. Foreign Relations Secretary Carlos Morales Troncoso; Industry and Commerce Secretary Juan Ramon Gonzalez; and Balaguer's personal aide, Deputy Anibal Paez, will accompany the president.

Balaguer had until now remained silent on his participation in the summit, but the source confirmed he will leave for Miami on the morning of 9 December along with the Dominican diplomats assigned to Washington and Miami.

President Balaguer moved forward the celebration of the traditional "Christmas Dinner," which will be held today, not 8 December as had been scheduled, because of his participation in the regional meeting for heads of state.

Haiti

Haitian Soldier Arrested for Murder of Embassy Employees

FL0612205194 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in French 1200 GMT 4 Dec 94

[Monitored in progress]

[FBIS Translated Text] College Francois has been arrested for the murder of two U.S. Embassy employees in Port-au-Prince on 10 November. According to Lieutenant Ludwige Bastien, police arrested Francois on the night of 4 December in the Macary region of Jacmel where he was found with a prostitute in the house of a voodoo priest. He did not resist arrest. At the time of the arrest, Francois was found with material evidence of the murder in his possession, including a U.S. Embassy payroll sheet, a .38-caliber gun, and 375,000 gourdes. He was taken to Jacmel where he has been imprisoned to await military arraignment and trial, as Francois is a member of the Haitian military. Three State Department agents participated in the arrest operation.

You recall that the U.S. Embassy had promised $10,000 to anyone who helped in the arrest of the person who had murdered the two Embassy employees, injured one other, and fled with the Embassy payroll. Lt. Bastien did not say whether the $10,000 would be paid to the peasant who assisted in Francois' arrest.

UN, OAS, Government Seek Emergency Poverty Assistance

FL0612211094 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Haitian authorities will broadcast simultaneous emergency calls from Port-au-Prince and Washington on Tuesday 6 December for the purpose of executing an emergency program to relieve the country's poverty. In Port-au-Prince, the call will be sent by Haitian Prime Minister Smarck Michel and a UN representatives who came to Haiti for this purpose. In Washington, the call will be made by representatives of the Haitian Government, the United Nations, and the OAS. The projects and programs included in this emergency call cover a six-month period, for a total of U.S. $77 million. UN Assistant Secretary General Fernando Zoumbado, who supports this initiative, will stay in Port-au-Prince until 7 December to assist Haitian Prime Minister Smarck Michel with today's official launching of this program.

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Swing, Party Leaders Hold Meeeting on Elections

FL0712023394 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in Creole 1230 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The newscast continues with an informal meeting between heads of several political parties and the U.S. ambassador to Port-au-Prince, William Lacy Swing. The question of the pending elections constituted the essential point of this meeting. Several political parties, including the Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Haiti-Democratic Revolutionary Party of Professor Francois Latortue; the National Congress of Democratic Movements; and the National Cooperative Action Movement accepted the invitation of the U.S. ambassador. According to sources close to these parties, during the meeting, the political leaders worked out several proposals relating to the elections. [passage omitted]

Parties Express Concern Over Legislative Vacuum

FL0712031194 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Organization of the legislative elections remains a concern for the Haitian political parties. Some leaders have publicly disapproved of the statements made by the Haitian prime minister regarding the upcoming electoral contests. The absence of a consensus on the matter could mark the first point of disagreement between the government and the political sector. Clarence Renois filed a report:

[Begin Renois recording] At least two political parties have for the moment expressed their disagreement with the idea of the Haitian prime minister—to hold the legislative and municipal elections within 14 to 22 weeks, after the creation of an electoral council. One of these parties, CONACOM, National Congress of Democratic Movements, has requested arrangements as soon as possible for the choice of members to comprise a transitory electoral council. Professor Victor Benoit's party, made it a point to express his concern about the delay in establishing this council to prepare for elections. Furthermore, CONACOM recalled that a certain consensus was reached regarding the electoral council, following the meetings held in the National Palace between President Aristide and the representatives of political parties.

A new political organization, Generation 2004, led by Claude Roumain, former MIDH [Movement For the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti] staff member, hopes a consensus can be found among all sectors of the nation in order to organize elections and avoiding a long-lasting vacuum because of the absence of deputies. [passage omitted]

MRN, Movement For National Reconstruction, rejects the executive's suggested 14-to-22 week deadline. Rene Theodore's party calls on the government to accelerate the renewal of the Chamber of Deputies, of the Senate, of the municipalities, and of an electoral council, instead of attempting to govern without them. To MRN, it is just as unacceptable to govern without a parliament for six months as was the absence of a legitimate executive in the country during the years of the coup d'etat.

If the proposals remain in conflict on the status of the council to conduct the organization of these elections, concerns expressed so far by some political parties inclue the vacuum that the absence of the legislators creates; and the danger of the executive's governing without a parliament. [end recording]

Measures Taken To Facilitate Customs Clearance

FL0712025294 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The following government measures have been adopted to facilitate customs clearance in Haiti's active harbors, including Port-au-Prince international airports: suspension of the requirement for the General Surveillance Society certificate [Societe Generale de Surveillance, SGS] until 2 March; suspension of the Customs clearance procedure on all imported goods, regarding perishable goods harmful to the environment, in compliance with Articles 90 and 93 of the Customs code, from 6 December until 2 March 1995; a drop in Customs rates on rice, cement, and sugar; elimination of import licenses on all products for three months, effective 2 December; extension of the operating hours of the working Customs offices, until further notice, from 0800 to 1600, Monday through Friday, and from 0800 to 1200 on Saturday, in compliance with provisions 7 and 8 of the Customs code.

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Legislature Asks Zedillo To Oppose Proposition 187 in Miami

PA0712030494 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0142 GMT 7 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Mexico City, 6 Dec (NOTIMEX)—The Mexican Chamber of Deputies and Senate issued a pronouncement today against Proposition 187, sponsored by California Governor Pete Wilson, stating that it adversely affects the human rights of Mexicans.

In a joint statement, the Mexican legislative branch said the approval of such a xenophobic initiative is outrageous because it promotes racist attitudes that affect undocumented workers living in that state.

The document said that within the framework of respect for the principle of nonintervention and international rules, every government has the right and obligation to defend the human and labor rights of its citizens, regardless of where they are.

In this regard, both chambers asked the Mexican Government to reiterate its diplomatic vows to defend the labor and human rights of Mexicans in international forums and organizations.

The Chamber of Deputies called on President Ernesto Zedillo to express his government's opposition to Proposition 187, which is aimed at undermining human and labor rights, at the upcoming Summit of the Americas in Miami, Florida.

The Chamber of Deputies and Senate also invited the people of Mexico and residents of areas bordering the United States to monitor the effects of the application of this proposition and to give their solidarity to our fellow citizens.

Roundtable Reviews Moves Against Proposition 187

PA0712024994 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 5 Dec 94 p 7

[Political advertisement: "Conclusions of the 'Mexican Leaders in the United States and Proposition 187' Roundtable"—names in boldface as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] In view of the racist and discriminatory content of Proposition 187 and its impact on human rights, we, the participants in the "Mexican Leaders in the United States and Proposition 187" roundtable sponsored by UNOMASUNO on Tuesday 29 November 1994 at the Coyoacan Culture Center in Mexico City, agreed to develop a strategy and implement joint activities on a binational and international level against this proposition.

The roundtable's immediate task will be to write and issue a "Coyoacan Declaration," which will include:

A. A brief analysis of the significance of Proposition 187 and its political, social, economic, and labor contents.

B. A declaration of the principles that we raise against Proposition 187's xenophobic attitudes which promote hate and discrimination.

C. A call to carry out coordinated activities on both sides of the Mexican-U.S. border.

Its program in the near future includes carrying out a number of meetings, which will lead to a clear understanding of the issues and the rapprochement of Mexicans and Mexican organizations in the two countries; holding working meetings to plan and organize specific activities; and coordinating the following tasks:

1. To focus society on the issue and to refocus the discussions and debates on the migration issue on the human rights situation of immigrants in California.

2. To promote social mobilizations in defense of human rights, activities to increase public awareness, and public opinion campaigns.

3. To foster contacts and working relations between similar organizations—including organizations concerned with unions, students, peasants, human rights, etc.—on both sides of the border.

4. To foster the active and committed participation among nongovernment and government organizations in the fight against hate and racial segregation campaigns, whose rallying cry has been Proposition 187, by presenting specific and appropriate proposals for each occasion.

5. To study and propose to the Governments of Mexico and the United States, including the legislative bodies, ways and means to protect the interests and the rights of immigrants.

Along with the Coyoacan Declaration representatives, social organizations committed to this cause, no matter what their ideological leanings, are invited to unite to work in a unified manner and to maintain constant lines of communication.

This first effort to extend this work across the border began because of the rapprochement between Mexicans on the two sides of the border fostered by UNOMASUNO, which also wants to develop activities and ties with other Latin American organizations.

This is the time for solidarity among all Latin Americans. This is the time to respond with dignity and intelligence. We urge good judgment, goodwill, and dedication.

[Signed] **Elena Brown Ghinis**, writer for UNOMASUNO, sociologist from the National Autonomous University of Mexico [UNAM], and an analyst for Chicano Issues and Mexican-U.S. Relations. Professor **Elba**

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Esther Gordillo, secretary general of the National Education Worker's Union and president of the Confederation of Educators of America. **David Hayes Bautista**, director of the California Center for Political Studies, professor of medicine at UCLA, and former director of the UCLA Center for Chicano Studies. **Senator Carlos Jimenez Macias**, secretary general of the Trade Unions Federation of Government Workers (FSTSE). **Fred J. Kumentz**, a Los Angeles human rights defense lawyer who introduced a deaf-and-dumb child's lawsuit against Proposition 187 in federal court. **Jorge Mancillas**, member of the Board of Directors of the ACLU and head of the Molecular Neurobiological Laboratory of the UCLA School of Medicine. **Francisco Mendoza**, moderator of the roundtable and UNOMASUNO correspondent in Los Angeles, California. **Olga Miranda**, leader of the "Four Winds" [Cuatro Vientos] student movement in California. **Victor Munoz**, leader of the Western Region of the AFL-CIO, which includes California, Nevada, Hawaii, and Guam. **Julian Nava**, former U.S. ambassador to Mexico. **Axel Ramirez**, UNOMASUNO writer, professor of the UNAM Foreign Student's School, Chicano Studies. **Dr. Samuel Schmidt**, UNOMASUNO writer and director of the Center of Inter- American and Border Studies of the University of Texas-El Paso. Catholic priest **Pedro Villarroya**, director of the Office of Spanish Ministries and spokesman for Los Angeles Cardinal Roger Mahoney.

[Dated] Coyoacan, Mexico, 29 November 1994

Zedillo Announces Bill on Justice Reform

PA0612171194 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0245 GMT 6 Dec 94

[Speech by President Ernesto Zedillo from the Venenciano Carranza Room of Los Pinos Presidential Residence in Mexico City—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen:

We Mexicans want a fatherland of peace, a nation dedicated to the creation of jobs for everybody and wellbeing for all families. The people want to be certain they can exercise their rights and enjoy respect for their liberties. The people are also demanding state protection against crime and violence, and they want the institutions in charge of procuring and imparting justice and guaranteeing public security to be stronger and more worthy of credibility.

The efforts of several generations, of ours, and the future of our children can go to waste if we do not take necessary steps to consolidate ourselves as a nation of laws. We Mexicans need, want, demand, and deserve an efficient justice system. We want law to be the basis of our coexistence, a demand calling for the existence of a strengthened justice system.

As a first step toward strengthening the justice system, I am sending to the honorable Congress of the Union today a constitutional reform bill to initiate the transformation of the judicial branch and the entire justice system. This initiative is one that includes reforms and annexes aimed at modifying the structure, organization, and scope of the judicial branch of the federation, the judicial powers of the states and the Federal District, and the Attorney General's Office and proposes the grounds on which the national public security system must stand.

The reform of the justice system must be based on the strengthening of the supreme body of the judicial branch; that is, the Supreme Court of Justice of Mexico. To achieve this goal, the bill calls for making the requirements Supreme Court justices must meet more rigorous.

The reform calls for a new procedure whereby the appointment of justices would have to be approved by the Senate of the republic; it likewise establishes that more legal experience is required of those who aspire to be Supreme Court justices.

One particularly important issue is that the reform precludes political appointments by preventing the appointment of government officials such as secretaries of state, governors, deputies, senators, and administrative department chiefs as justices of the court immediately after they leave their posts.

Moreover, the proposed reform strengthens the Supreme Court by making it a more compact and select body that will focus on imparting justice. In effect, it has been suggested the Supreme Court should not be distracted by administrative issues or by the appointment of judges and magistrates. To achieve this goal, the reform proposes the creation of a specialized department within the judicial branch that would be called the Judiciary Council and would take care of administrative duties and the selection of judges and magistrates.

The Judiciary Council would be formed by prestigious individuals appointed by judges and magistrates, as well as the Senate and the federal executive. This council would guarantee the selection of judges and magistrates based on the criteria of excellence and higher professional aptitudes.

The proposed reform also strengthens the Supreme Court by broadening its powers to include decisions on the constitutionality of laws. Because it is not possible to understand and resolve all the constitutionality conflicts that may emerge within our legal system through actions for relief, the reform proposes the establishment of procedures that will better guarantee the principle of separation of the branches of state and the federal system and concurrently allow society to question through its representatives the constitutionality of a general decision.

Meanwhile, the reform proposes the establishment of a constitutional principle that would foster laws with which citizens would be able to defend themselves when the PGR fails to do its duty. Victims or their relatives

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will be able to demand satisfaction when the PGR fails to fulfill its duties through carelessness, negligence, or corruption. We will grow increasingly efficient in resolving crimes and struggling against impunity, corruption, and injustice with this reform.

To strengthen the judicial system, the initiative also proposes that the appointment of the attorney general, who heads the federal PGR, be approved by the Senate of the republic.

Among the most sensitive demands made throughout the country are the need for increased public security and improved citizen protection. We must promote the necessary measures and actions to fulfill these demands, starting with a new legal framework that will be established in the Constitution; thus, the reform calls for the federal state, states, and municipalities to be organized in all the basic aspects of public security, meaning states, municipalities, and the federal government would have to disclose their programs and actions to prevent and to combat crime.

This point also means they should have access to and exchange information on criminals, the intent of which will help them make better use of their personnel and resources to attain more efficiency in public security.

If this reform is approved, all of the police corps in the country will be compelled by constitutional mandate to bring about a profound and effective transformation so as to better coordinate the fight against crime. The reform I am now sending to the Congress is an important step forward in perfecting our democracy. By strengthening the judicial branch, one guarantees better balance between the branches of state and ensures the judicial branch itself will make certain the Constitution is strictly observed and remains fully in force.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am determined as president of the republic to spearhead the strengthening of our state of law and the consolidation of Mexico as a country of laws. The constitutional reform bill I am sending to Congress today is the first step toward obtaining more solid bases that will allow us to perfect our laws and to improve our institutions. This step is only the beginning of a long process that will demand efforts, discipline, firmness, and perseverance. It is the beginning of a search for solutions that will take time and will require the cooperation of everyone. That reason is why, with all due respect, while outlining the reasons behind it, I am inviting the Congress to assess, enrich, perfect, and approve this bill if it finds it is called for.

We all are going to work to achieve a more independent judicial branch, one that is better equipped to fulfill its tasks. We are going to work so that the institutions in charge of imparting justice can fulfill the responsibility the nation has assigned them. This reform will help invigorate our democracy, because we will have a better balance between the branches of state. It will permit us to shore up the public security for which we all yearn within the framework of the Constitution and the laws, and it will guarantee impartial, expeditious, and accessible justice for each and every Mexican.

EZLN Threatens To End Cease-Fire If Robledo Inaugurated

PA0712043294 Paris AFP in Spanish 0327 GMT 7 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Aguascalientes, Mexico, 6 Dec (AFP)—The Zapatist guerrillas this Tuesday threatened to withdraw their commitment to maintain a cease-fire if Eduardo Robledo, a member of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, takes office as governor of Chiapas.

Subcommander Marcos issued the aforementioned warning from insurgent controlled territories just 48 hours prior to Robledo's inauguration, which is scheduled for Thursday.

Marcos said Robledo's resignation would be a sign of peace and invited the federal government to refrain from imposing Robledo and to recognize Amado Avendano of the center-left Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) as governor of Chiapas.

Marcos, leader of the Zapatist National Liberation Army (EZLN), called a news conference in the vicinity of Aguascalientes in the Lacandona jungle to read three communiques: one addressed to President Ernesto Zedillo, another to Cuauhtemoc Cardenas (PRD) and the National Democratic Convention (CND, civilian pro-Zapatist organization), and another to the people of Mexico.

In the communique to the people of Mexico, the EZLN stated that "as they are now trying to impose shameful PRI member Eduardo Robledo in Chiapas, and given that the period of peaceful civic resistance will end when he is inaugurated," such an action will be considered "the formal rupture of the cease-fire on the part of the federal government."

Marcos added that he will declare "the areas currently occupied by the population which supports our cause rebel-controlled territory" and invited Avendano to head the "popular government in rebellion" in Chiapas.

In that six-point communique, Marcos stated that "in keeping with the formal break of the cease-fire" on the part of the federal government, the EZLN "no longer feels obligated to keep its commitment to a unilateral cease-fire," decreed on 12 January between the rebel forces and the Army.

Marcos told the press that the Zapatist rebels will not accept any governor other than Avendano, who is preparing to take office next Thursday in Tuxtla Gutierrez, the capital of Chiapas.

On that day there will be two inaugurations in Chiapas: one official, that of Robledo, and a popular inauguration, that of Avendano, who is supported by the PRD, civic organizations, and the Zapatist rebels.

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This Tuesday approximately 2,000 peasants, mostly Indians, arrived in Tuxtla Gutierrez and took up positions at the Civic Plaza to begin protesting Robledo's takeover of the Chiapas Government.

According to leaders from the popular mobilization "against the usurper Robledo," approximately 10,000 people are expected in Tuxtla to prevent his inauguration and to declare Avendano "transitional governor."

The EZLN communique to Zedillo states that the Mexican president offered to maintain a "secret and direct" dialogue, which was rejected by the Zapatists, who said they will not enter into that type of negotiation.

In addition, they invited Zedillo to resign from the presidency and questioned the composition of his cabinet, which they said "represents continuity with President Carlos Salinas, who led most of the Mexican people into extreme poverty."

The EZLN urged Cardenas and the CND to form a broad opposition front to demand, through civil and peaceful action, "the resignation of the illegitimate government."

Sides Reach Accord on Guaranteeing Calm in Chiapas

PA0712144494 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0430 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Government Secretary Ernesto Moctezuma Barragan reported today having a conversation with Amado Avendano, the former Chiapas gubernatorial candidate for the Party of the Democratic Revolution [PRD], and a commission representing the Democratic Assembly of the People of Chiapas State. He announced the two sides agreed on the following:

1. To guarantee calm in Chiapas on 8 December, when Eduardo Robledo is to be sworn in as governor of Chiapas.

2. To respect the right to freedom of expression in the form of orderly and peaceful demonstrations, gatherings, and the expression of opinion during the events the Democratic Assembly of the People of Chiapas State has scheduled for that date.

3. To respect the activities programed by the Chiapas government.

4. To avoid all confrontations or provocations.

5. To implement ways to accomplish the deep social changes the people of Chiapas need, such as land reform, the administration of justice, the Indian situation, and electoral reform.

6. To encourage the federal, state, and municipal governments, and all sectors of Chiapas society to contribute to lasting peace with justice and dignity.

It is important to note again the Government Secretariat made this announcement.

Army, Civilians Allegedly Clash in Metlatonoc

PA0612145694 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 5 Dec 94 p 18

[Report by Jose Manuel Benitez]

[FBIS Translated Text] Chilpancingo, Guerrero State, 4 Dec—There was an alleged clash between members of the Mexican Army and civilians during the afternoon of 3 December in Metlatonoc Municipality, in the area of La Montana. Seven soldiers and 19 civilians reportedly died, and an undetermined number were injured, it was reported today in this capital.

Unofficial media sources reported on 1 December an alleged clash in Zitlaltepec, and there was a report today about another alleged clash in Chimixtlahuaca, both within the jurisdiction of Metlatonoc, which produced an initial casualty toll of seven Army members and 19 area peasants.

Martin Santos Santiago, an agent of the State Judicial Police (PJE) in Tlapa, a municipality in the same region, reported via telephone there have been rumors of a clash since the afternoon of 3 December, and these rumors forced a team from that institution today to head for Zitlatepec, in Metlatonoc, in the same municipality, to carry out an investigation.

Meanwhile, sources of the Government Secretariat have stated in Mexico City this is just a rumor.

Jorge Obregon, director of the La Voz de la Montana Radio Station, headquartered in Tlapa, reported this morning he only saw about 14 vehicles of a military convoy heading for the highlands of the area where Metlatonoc is located. He added a team of 60 agents of the Federal Judicial Police (PFJ) arrived in the region about 10 days ago for a few days and then left. Members of the Mexican Army have also been seen in the area, but residents believe they are involved in "normal" operations.

The PJE agent said an Army official has told him those were only rumors, and Santos Santiago himself headed for Zitlaltepec, where the clash reportedly occurred claiming the lives of seven soldiers and 19 peasants in a place called Cerro de Las Garzas, near Metlatonoc. The unofficial report mentions an undetermined number of injured although there is no confirmation yet of the alleged incident.

The PJE agent added officials of the federal and State Government Secretariat have not yet confirmed this matter either. He said the government's motorized police captured two individuals over the weekend as 100 uniformed men were marching between the municipalities of Olinala and Metlatonoc. They were turned over to the Agency of the Federal Attorney General's Office

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[Agencia del Ministerio Publico Federal—AMFP] under charges of committing crimes against public health.

From General Hospital in Tlapa, radiologist Albino Marin Eusebio have reported via telephone only one person was admitted there between yesterday and today. This person was admitted at 1400 today with two gunshots on the left side, but those gunshots have produced only "small holes as those caused by .22-caliber weapons." This person had not yet been interrogated by the PJE or MP [expansion unknown] of the Court of Equity as of 2010.

Media sources in Chilpancingo and rumors from certain sources in Tlapa have continued to insist, however, on the alleged clash. The commander of the 35th Military Zone in this capital was allegedly unavailable for comment, and no official report from the federal government has been issued yet.

Nuevo Leon Businessmen To Invest in Cuban Electricity

PA0412163194 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2041 GMT 3 Sep 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Monterrey, 3 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Nuevo Leon businessmen expect to invest $250 million to produce electricity in Cuba in 1995, and the electricity will be exported to several states in southern Mexico, local businessman Mauricio Fernandez Garcia has reported.

The businessman, who heads a group of local investors, said the plant will generate 400 megawatts of electricity and that they will connect the southern region of Mexico with Cuba through an underwater cable.

He added that they will use the electricity the island is able to produce with Mexico's residual fuel and will use proven Japanese and German technologies in such endeavors.

Fernandez Garcia explained that the southern states of Mexico have a persistent problem because their electricity network is not connected to the rest of the Republic and it is very expensive for the Mexican Government to extend the national network to those states.

He said they already have President Fidel Castro's approval to initiate the project and only await the authorization from several Mexican Government institutions.

The businessman, who has been managing "Comercializadora Unicer" in Cuba for several years now, said the island is located approximately 200 km from Quintana Roo and that this will facilitate the operation. "Commercializadora Unicer" is a firm specializing in selling textiles, glass, and cigars.

INCD Report Assesses Risks Posed by Drug Trafficking

PA0212201994 Mexico City REFORMA in Spanish 30 Nov 94 p 13a

[Report by Amparo Trejo]

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Counternarcotics Institute [INCD] has reported that the Mexican population has been endangered by clashes among the country's drug trafficking organizations, which want to expand their areas of influence. Such clashes have led to an increase in violent incidents such as assaults, kidnappings, and crimes against public health.

According to an INCD report entitled "Progress and Results," the country's strategic situation has led to an increase in territorial disputes and the corruption of authorities, all in an effort to find ways to transport drugs to the United States. "One of the main problems presented by the increase in drug trafficking is its ability to infiltrate institutions, local power structures, and economies with money laundering and corruption, which is one of the main obstacles faced by the institutions responsible for combating drug trafficking and the efficient implementation of national policies on this issue," the INCD report states.

According to the report issued by the INCD, which is headed by Commissioner Rene Paz Horta, the Finance Secretariat, in coordination with the Attorney General's Office and the U.S. Government, has discovered 109 cases of institutions' involvement in money laundering.

"The INCD administration has conducted 142 audits at institutions suspected of money laundering, 33 of which were clean. There is an inventory of 109 cases in which money laundering could be taking place," the INCD reports.

The INCD is working on drug control with the deputy secretaries of the Government, Foreign Relations, Defense, Navy, Finance and Public Credit, Social Development, Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources, Communications and Transport, Education, and Public Health Secretariats, as well as with the Attorney General's Office and the Federal District Attorney General's Office.

According to the report, the organization headed by Juan Garcia Abrego, which operates the Gulf or Tamaulipas Cartel, has had the most members detained during this administration. Luis Medrano Garcia, Abrego's cousin; Jose Alonso Perez De la Rosa, alias El Amable; Carlos Resendez Bertoloussi; and Jose Adolfo De la Garza Robles were all detained after 1990.

The report mentions the connections between the Mexican and Colombian cartels. For instance, Garcia's organization has close ties with the Cali Cartel. In addition, the organization that used to be lead by Joaquin Guzman Loaera, alias El Chapo Guzman, who has been at the

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Almoloya de Juarez prison since 1993, is trafficking in South American cocaine and Thai heroin, which are being distributed not only in the United States but also in Europe and Latin America. The INCD reported that Hector Luis Palma, alias El Guero, is currently heading this organization.

Prisons

The INCD indicated in its report that the increase in drug trafficking in Mexico has increased the number of people detained in Mexican prisons for crimes against public health. This situation has sparked the creation of powerful groups that constitute a serious risk to the stability of the country's prisons.

"Drug trafficking inside the prisons has exacerbated prison overcrowding, prompting the creation of powerful groups that constantly disrupt peace and provoke risky situations such as high levels of drug addiction, mutinies, escapes, or aggressions against other inmates and prison authorities," the report concluded.

Reports Infiltration of Institutions

PA0212181694 Mexico City REFORMA in Spanish 30 Nov 94 p 1A

[Article by Amparo Trejo]

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Couternarcotics Institute (INCD) acknowledges that drug trafficking, through money laundering and corruption in Mexico, has managed to infiltrate the local power and economic structures, which has prevented national policies to eliminate it from working. "One of the main problems presented by the increase in drug trafficking is its ability to infiltrate institutions, local power structures, and economies with money laundering and corruption, which is one of the main obstacles faced by the institutions responsible for combating drug trafficking and the efficient implementation of national policies on this issue," the INCD says.

The agency, in a document with a prologue to President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, assesses the past six years, stating that the violence resulting from the struggle between rival drug trafficking gangs has generated a climate of instability and violence in Tijuana, Ciudad Juarez, Matamoros, Culiacan, Guadalajara, and, in recent years, has reached the Federal District.

"In the last two years the Federal District has been affected by these kinds of events. The attacks on former and current judicial authorities are alarming. Violent clashes between drug trafficking organizations have also increased due to internal conflicts over control of markets and routes," the report adds.

According to an INCD report on "Advances and Results," drug trafficking has infiltrated the poorest regions of the country, where alternative development projects are nonexistent.

The INCD explains in its report that the eradication programs are focused on aerial fumigation, which is supervised by the Attorney General's Office [PGR], while the Defense Secretariat is responsible for manual fumigation. The Defense Secretariat has eradicated 75 percent of the total number of plantations, while the PGR has eradicated 25 percent during the past six year period.

The report also lists the arrest of 10 major drug traffickers, eight of whom were arrested after 1990. Among them is Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, who was arrested in 1993 for the attempted murder of the Arellano Felix brothers. These two brothers have been directly linked to the murder of Cardinal Juan Jesus Posado Ocampo and are still at large.

Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo, who is considered "the main drug trafficker," was the first major trafficker to be arrested in the past six years.

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El Salvador

Calderon Sol: Central America To Act as Bloc at Summit

PA0612225094 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 6 Dec 94 p 3A

[FBIS Translated Text] Benjamin Cestoni, private secretary for the Presidency, confirmed yesterday that President Armando Calderon Sol will travel to Miami on 8 December to participate, along with 34 other heads of state, in the Summit of the Americas, scheduled to be held from 9 to 11 December. The summit will address issues such as the continent's trade and financial relations.

Calderon Sol yesterday stressed that Central America will present a "joint" proposal on sustainable development. "Central America believes it will receive more respect as a bloc. The fact that we are a market of more than 31 million people has meaning for the other countries," he stated.

The president, who inaugurated the San Antonio bridge along the coastal highway yesterday, demanded better commercial treatment for the isthmus, because "we are disadvantaged by NAFTA," signed by the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

He added that "we will take measures to facilitate investment in Central America and trade with the United States, and we will present a unified position on these issues."

President Calderon Sol will travel with his wife, Elizabeth, Foreign Relations Minister Oscar Santamaria, and Planning Minister Ramon Gonzalez Giner. Private secretary Cestoni, Protocol [word indistinct] Eduardo Calix, and three Salvadoran businessmen are also part of the official delegation.

Cestoni reported that on the night of 8 December, the president will attend a dinner organized by FUSAL [expansion unknown] President Luis Poma and by businesses who donated medicine to El Salvador. On 10 December, Calderon Sol and the other chiefs of state attending the summit will hold private sessions to discuss trade, economic and financial relations, sustainable development, political affairs, democracy, human rights, and the fight against poverty.

In addition to the speech that President William Clinton will deliver on 11 December, the summit participants will listen to speeches delivered by four presidents on behalf of North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. In addition, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) President Enrique Iglesias and OAS Secretary General Cesar Gaviria will deliver speeches on 11 December.

Several heads of state will meet with environmental groups on 10 December, and the Central American presidents will meet with Iglesias on 11 December. Following the summit, the Salvadoran president will deliver a speech before a Latin American organization (Caribbean National Latin American) [previous four words published in English] on 12 December and will return to El Salvador on 14 December.

To Promote Business Sector Request

PA0612181394 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1636 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] San Salvador, 6 Dec (DPA)—Salvadoran President Armando Calderon Sol will travel to Miami on 8 December to attend the Summit of the Americas with a request from the business sector to preserve free enterprise and to safeguard property rights, which the business sector considers the pillars of progress.

An official spokesman said today President Calderon and his Central American colleagues will present a unified position, because Central America believes it will obtain greater respect in this manner.

President Calderon said today: "We are a market of more than 30 million people, and I believe this point is significant to the other countries."

Calderon Sol will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Oscar Santamaria and Planning Minister Ramon Gonzalez Giner, as well as three businessmen representing the private sector.

Even though the summit agenda includes important topics such as the democratization process of the Latin American countries and the struggle against drug trafficking and corruption, the business sectors insist the meeting should give greater priority to U.S. investment in the hemisphere and to free trade with preferential treatment.

Spokespersons of the Salvadoran business organizations said today what they expect from the summit is an opening of the U.S. market through the pressure of the 33 democratically elected presidents on the American continent.

The Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce and Industry has stated the hemispheric chambers of commerce and industry already met in Miami last week to agree upon the position of the private sectors.

Another demand being made by the private sectors is the right of consumers and producers to interact in a free and spontaneous market without unnecessary intervention by the state.

In proposing the liberalization of hemispheric trade, the private sectors ask their presidents to struggle so that a timetable of activities can be set up as soon as possible that will make possible a free trade region for the entire hemisphere, respecting the main role of open regionalism.

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Another business sector demand is to make possible free access to markets by lifting nontariff barriers and dispensing with export subsidies.

Calderon Sol Supports Salinas for WTO Presidency

PA0612042894 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0048 GMT 6 Dec 94

[By Edelmiro Franco]

[FBIS Translated Text] San Salvador, 5 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Salvadoran President Armando Calderon Sol today voiced his country's support for the candidacy of former Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to head the World Trade Organization (WTO).

In a conversation with NOTIMEX, Calderon Sol said: "We believe his personal characteristics and knowledge of international trade make him the right man to lead that world organization."

The Salvadoran president praised Salinas de Gortari's role in hemispheric integration, particularly in terms of trade, during his six-year term.

Calderon Sol emphasized that El Salvador will promote Salinas de Gortari's candidacy "to lead the WTO."

On 1 January 1995, the WTO will replace the GATT, and Salinas de Gortari is one of the candidates nominated to head the organization.

Calderon Sol described the work done by Salinas de Gortari during his six-year term in office (1988-1994) as "very good" and stressed that his experience is recognized by the Central American countries.

He noted: "Former President Salinas de Gortari's economic and political efforts were very good. He was able to stabilize his country's economy, achieve a significant level of economic growth, and increase investment."

Calderon Sol said he believes political progress in Mexico is based on state reform and greater democratic opening to balance the country's political system.

He stressed that "a great deal of his political experience is being recognized by the Central American countries."

Calderon Sol highlighted most the boost Salinas de Gortari gave to hemispheric integration in terms of trade.

He maintained that "NAFTA, the treaty among Mexico, the United States, and Canada, can make the economic integration of Latin America more dynamic, thanks to the work done by the former Mexican president."

Calderon Sol said economic integration in Latin America will be a crucial topic at next week's hemispheric summit in Miami from 9 to 11 December.

According to the Salvadoran Government, the main issue to be discussed at the Summit of the Americas is the trade agreements in the region.

Concerning El Salvador's expectations for new Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon, who assumed office on 1 December, Calderon Sol expressed an interest in strengthening bilateral relations.

"We hope to expand our good relations, the relations of two sisterly nations, within a framework of mutual respect, solidarity, and friendship," he stressed.

The president added that in Zedillo's six-year term, the two countries will "consolidate their commercial relations to guarantee closer ties."

He said that his government plans to exchange its views with Mexico on programs to fight poverty. It also wants "to strengthen cooperative ties in education, culture, science, and technology."

ERP, RN Split From FMLN To Create Social Democratic Party

PA0312201694 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 1 Dec 94 p 4A

[FBIS Translated Text] The People's Revitalizing Expression (ERP) has decided to break away from the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] to create a new political party identified with social democracy, Joaquin Villalobos said yesterday.

FMLN coordinator Jorge Shafik Handal stated that Villalobos will make his resignation official on 10 December. This, according to Handal, will put an end to the internal differences within the five organizations comprising the FMLN.

The announcement was confirmed by Villalobos, who disclosed in a televised interview that the break is definitive and announced he will found a party with social democratic principles.

The political leader asserted that the democratization process is facing a period of change that requires a reorganization of the political spectrum, in light of the upcoming 1997 and 1999 elections.

Meanwhile, Handal believed that the ERP's separation became evident a few weeks ago, when ERP delegates did not attend the municipal conventions that were held throughout the country.

In response to Handal's remarks, Villalobos declared he has been working to create a new political party, comprising the defunct National Revolutionary Movement (MNR) and the National Resistance (RN), as well as other political sectors of the national life.

RN Secretary General Eduardo Sancho has said his organization could also break away from the FMLN to

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support the political project announced by ERP and MNR leaders, although he did not reveal a date for such a move.

However, Sancho advanced that the problems will be definitively resolved during the ordinary convention that will be held on 17 and 18 December, in which the future of the FMLN will be discussed and the short-term action plan that will be executed will be designed.

The FMLN has faced serious discussions resulting in fights over its future political orientation. These fights worsened after the FMLN abandoned arms to become a legally established political party in December of 1992.

The crisis within the FMLN broke out last May during the installation of the Legislative Assembly, after the ERP and RN made a pact with Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] to obtain a vice presidency and a secretariat in the board of the parliament. This was severly criticized by other FMLN organizations.

The Popular Liberation Forces (FPL), Communist Party of El Salvador (PCES), and the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers (PRTC) then disavowed the actions of the ERP and the RN and called seven deputies "traitors."

"We are not going to continue fighting because we pursue the same goals... If the ERP (or the RN) break away from the FMLN, it is the logical consequence of their position," Handal noted.

Villalobos did not rule out the possibility of adopting in the future joint positions to aspire to common objectives, after warning that "we will pursue the same goals."

Guatemala

De Leon Carpio Outlines Regional Stand at Miami Summit

PA0612235194 Guatemala City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 6 Dec 94 p 3

[Report by Rony Ivan Veliz]

[FBIS Translated Text] Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio has said that at the Summit of the Americas the Central American presidents will present a joint proposal to obtain preferential membership in NAFTA with Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

"This joint proposal will help us enter a natural zone in the area of economics, and, if there is fairness, liberalization, and equality in terms of competition, our countries could even join the Caribbean Basin," the president said at the Kaibil Training Center.

"We will discuss three major topics at the summit. One of them is economics, specifically to join NAFTA, which would benefit our nations by allowing them to negotiate on solid footing and to open their markets to other countries," De Leon Carpio added.

"Another of the topics we will address is the strengthening of democracy and respect for human rights to bolster the institutional process in each country by fighting poverty, discrimination, and controlling drug trafficking," President De Leon Carpio stressed.

The Summit of the Americas should also resolve ecological and environmental problems, and "the United States should understand once and for all that the frenzied exploitation of Central America's natural resources will produce waves of environmental refugees heading toward North America," he indicated.

United States Violates Human Rights With Decree [as published] 187

Ramiro De Leon Carpio expressed his discontent over the hasty way the U.S. Government [as published] approved Proposition 187, which violates the human rights of all immigrants by prohibiting children the right to education and health, something he termed a "monstrosity."

"It is inconceivable that in a world power like the United States there are 'reactionary' minds who want to harm thousands of innocent children with this law," the president added.

To Broach Human Rights With Clinton

PA0712021294 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2354 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Guatemala City, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—At the Summit of the Americas, which begins in Miami on Friday, the Central American presidents will seek U.S. support for a region that has abandoned armed conflicts and has entered an era of peace.

Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio said this when commenting on his expectations and those of his Central American colleagues prior to the meeting that will bring together leaders of 34 countries.

"We hope U.S. policy will be one of support for those countries that have left dictatorships behind and are making progress in their democratic systems," De Leon said.

According to the Guatemalan president, armed conflicts in the region have ended with the Cold War, except for the one in his country.

De Leon said: "This is precisely the time when Latin America needs support. I am not talking about charity, but about opportunities to come out ahead." He added that at the summit, mechanisms will be sought for the signing of a trade agreement that will integrate all of the countries of the Americas.

Meanwhile, he did not conceal his concern over the signs of discrimination that have appeared recently and threaten relations between the United States and other countries on the continent.

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In this regard, De Leon noted the fact that, within the North American country, "a type of discrimination, which should be part of past centuries, is now taking place in the form of Proposition 187," which restricts the basic rights of the children of illegal immigrants.

"This is an undignified form of racial discrimination which, above all else, is an inhumane legal monstrosity that prevents children from obtaining education and health for no other reason than having been born to parents without legal documentation," the president remarked.

Nevertheless, he explained that the result of the summit "depends on the optimism" of the presidents.

Regarding the personal agenda he will discuss with his U.S. colleague Bill Clinton, Ramiro De Leon Carpio noted that he chose the issue of human rights, which is "closely related to the peace process."

After saying the political and economic crisis has been overcome in his country, De Leon said he hopes to tackle two large problems: the end of the armed conflict and what he called "the outbreak of peace" in an effort to uphold the economic, social, and cultural rights of the population.

The former human rights ombudsman of Guatemala will not only broach these issues with Clinton, but he also said he will present them next year in Geneva, where the UN Human Rights Commission and the European Parliament will meet.

"There is no policy of human rights violations in Guatemala," and, after reviewing the statistics, one can appreciate the advances we have made in this area, he continued.

For De Leon, the "problem" is the continuation of the internal armed conflict, which began in 1960 and is officially considered the "primary source" of human rights violations.

The Central American presidents will try to seek "partners" in Miami for their Alliance for Sustainable Development, which is designed to result in an economic and social "takeoff" that will respect the natural environment. Efforts are being made to present this idea as "a pilot project" to the international community, which may adopt similar projects to develop democratic systems with a view to preserving the environment, De Leon stressed.

"The idea is to revolutionize Central America not with weapons, but with the participation of the people, and by placing more emphasis on the majority of people who live in poverty," De Leon stressed. Nearly 80 percent of Central Americans live in poverty, and of this figure, most live under conditions of extreme poverty, according to humanitarian organizations.

De Leon concluded that racial and economic discrimination, the exploitation of man by man, and the injustices that still prevail in Central America "must change."

De Leon Rules Out Negotiation With Insurgents

PA0712155094 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 6 Dec 94 p 3

[Passages within italics as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ramiro De Leon Carpio ruled out yesterday a peace negotiation between his government and insurgent commanders of the mountains, because there is already a negotiation with the four main commanders. The president made this statement during an interview in Poptun, Peten, where he traveled on the occasion of the anniversary of the founding of the School of Kaibile Troops.

There will be no need to go to the mountains to hold talks with the commanders who are there, because there are four principal leaders, De Leon said, admitting this possibility is mentioned *every time the process appears hopeless.*

He recalled, however, there is an ongoing process governed by a timetable (signed with the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity) by which the government must abide.

In fact, the chief of the executive branch said *not a single country has any doubt about the political willingness of the regime, because the failures of the dialogue have not been our fault.*

De Leon Carpio admitted there is a delay in the fulfillment of the established timetable, and, thus, there is catching up to do.

He said the resumption of talks involving the petit committee in Mexico was scheduled for yesterday and added the *government's political willingness to secure peace is crystal clear for the international community.*

Former Rebel Discloses Guerrillas' Source of Funding

PA0412205494 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0226 GMT 1 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Guatemala City, 30 Nov (NOTIMEX)—An alleged guerrilla disclosed today that the Guatemalan guerrilla leaders are being funded by local businessmen by means of deposits to banks in Mexico and Spain.

In an interview that was broadcasted on this capital city's radio, Angel Reyes Melgar, who described himself as a former member of the so-called Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA), explained that Guatemalan businessmen are paying "war taxes" to the rebels.

Reyes stated that each month the businessmen are forced to deposit an unspecified amount of funds in banks located in countries such as Mexico and Spain, to support the commanders of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG).

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He indicated that the commanders of the URNG, an organization to which the OPRA belongs, resorts to intimidation in order to continue charging the war tax.

The alleged retired guerrilla identified bank robberies carried out by urban guerrilla commandos as another source of financing.

In the wide-ranging interview, which was broadcasted by Emisoras Unidas de Guatemala, Reyes Melgar refrained from providing more details to support his allegations.

The former ORPA member claims that he was "forced" by the guerrilla leadership to perform political tasks and gather funds to carry out rebel activities.

Reyes Melgar stated that he decided to withdraw from the guerrilla movement because he became disenchanted with the URNG leadership's "poor revolutionary" conviction and sole interest in economic profit.

The former rebel said that the leadership never accepted any criticism and "dismissed" several activists who dared to point out their mistakes and "bourgeoisie" conduct.

The commanders of the guerrilla alliance are currently holding talks with the government to find a political solution to a conflict that has lasted 34 years and led to more than 175,000 casualties.

Honduras

Attorney General Files Charges Against Callejas

PA0312013894 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Dec 94 p 2

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Tegucigalpa—The Attorney General's Office officially filed a criminal suit yesterday against former President Rafael Leonardo Callejas for the abuse of authority, fraud, and embezzlement of public funds.

The charges, which were filed in the First Criminal Court in Tegucigalpa, concern three actions of the Callejas government and involve the sale of Communications, Public Works, and Transport Ministry [SECOPT] equipment to private corporations.

The investigation and documents for these charges were prepared by the Commission for Preventing and Fighting Corruption, led by attorney Enrique Flores Valeriano, but it was the Special Prosecutor's Office Against Corruption that brought the case to court on behalf of the people.

Rene Suazo Lagos, special prosecutor against corruption, said in a news conference: "The Attorney General's Office, particularly the Prosecutor's Office Against Corruption, is not acting politically or serving any political interests."

The three charges refer to the sale of SECOPT machinery and equipment through executive decrees and the signing of highway repair and maintenance contracts in violation of Article 205, Paragraph 4 of the Constitution, which deals with the functions of the National Assembly. Specifically, it is the Assembly that "authorizes the executive to transfer the ownership of national assets or the public use thereof." In addition, Article 321 states public servants have no functions other than those expressly stipulated by law.

One of the charges refers to the direct sale of machinery for 7 million lempiras to a group of union members who formed the corporation Brazos de Honduras. The amount would be payable in several installments.

Another charge concerns the direct sale by installments of several pieces of equipment for 630,000 lempiras to the COMUNITAS corporation. The terms were never honored. The Assembly rescinded the contract on 3 November and turned over a portion of this equipment to several mayor's offices in Cortes, Atlantida, and Santa Barbara Departments.

The third charge concerns an agreement between SECOPT and the corporation La Familia, owned by former National Party Deputy Mariano de Jesus Gonzalez, whereby part of the equipment was rented to the corporation. La Familia was paid at the same time for the repair of an intersection in the municipality of Santa Cruz de Yojoa, in Cortes Department.

The three lawsuits accuse former President Callejas of abuse of authority, a charge that includes his former officials: Government Minister Jose Celin Discua Elvir; Foreign Minister Mario Carias Zapata; Defense Minister Lazaro Melanio Avila Soleno; Economy Minister Carlos Chahin; Finance Minister Rene Ardon Matute; Education Minister Jaime Martinez Guzman; Health Minister Ramon Pereira; Culture Minister Sonia Canales de Mendieta; Labor Minister Carlos Lopez Torres; Mauro Membreno Tosta, minister of communications, public works, and transport; Natural Resources Minister Mario Nufio Gamero; Planning Minister Orlando Funez Cruz; and Jose Tomas Guillen Williams, director of the National Agrarian Institute.

Finally, several former SECOPT officials and Mariano de Jesus Gonzalez, the former deputy and labor leader, have been accused of misappropriating public assets. [passage omitted]

Callejas Denounces Legal Actions

PA0412202494 Tegucigalpa EL PERIODICO DE HONDURAS in Spanish 2 Dec 94 p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] Tegucigalpa—Former President Rafael Leonardo Callejas confirmed that a court has issued a warrant for his arrest and for the arrest of members of his cabinet, who were processed at the Office of the Prosecutor General on counts of corruption.

The former president, his closest aides, and a group of law experts met yesterday to analyze the lawsuits filed against them by the Office of the Prosecutor General for alleged abuse of authority.

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The lawyers' commission, comprising Elias J. Calix, Mario Rivera Lopez, Francisco Cardona Arguelles, Daniel Torres Ramos, and others, studied the documents that the Office of the Prosecutor General used to file multiple suits.

It was learned that legal experts concluded that the defendants committed no offense, so they will begin the appropriate actions to respond to the charges.

The former president showed disappointment and dismay over the expeditious manner in which Honduran justice has acted in this case. He also complained that no time was allowed to study the case because it was filed Wednesday and the judge began to hear the case the following day.

Unlike the other thousands of cases pending in the courts of justice, he said, the courts are moving swiftly, prompted by partisan views and political persecution.

The former president reproved the actions taken by President Carlos Roberto Reina, who urged the people to pressure the Congress to act in line with their interests.

Visibly upset, he added that the fact the Supreme Court chief justice was given instructions on the matter is at odds with the constitutional structure of the state and the autonomy of state branches.

In Callejas' opinion, there is a clear interest in creating an institutional crisis, if one considers the way in which things have been presented. "We understand corruption in the country consists of an action whereby a public official enriches himself." He explained that includes a service paid for with cash or in kind.

In his opinion, one has to fight people who have stolen, enriched themselves illicitly, or been involved in some "shady" deal.

He affirmed, however, that the current legal actions have nothing to do with that because they establish a connection with irregularities in the decisions the Council of Ministers of the previous administration made.

Along those lines, he asked, what are we doing, chasing thieves or establishing that every action we carried out is illegal?

For Callejas, the Honduran people want thieves to go to jail.

The former president predicted that the current situation may lead to anarchy and chaos because henceforth, he warned, any action a public official may take will be subject to a suit.

Regarding immediate actions to be taken, unrelated to the lawsuit, Rafael Leonardo Callejas will ask the Central Committee of the National Party of Honduras [PNH] to keep 26 December as the date for the national convention so he can submit a series of alternatives.

On 13 December, the Central Committee authorities will meet with the PNH legislative bloc to coordinate actions.

Callejas summarized the series of charges and attacks by the Reina administration against the PNH top leaders. In the same strong tone, Callejas charged that Reina and his aides have not been able to cope with the national crisis and are trying to evade that through false accusations without legal basis.

In conclusion, he said that all the actions the Liberal Party government has taken are a mere smokescreen to hide poverty, inflation, cholera, AIDS, and the destruction of highways.

Nicaragua

Chinandega Market 'Supply Center' for Gunrunners

PA0412232794 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Dec 94 pp 1, 2

[Report by correspondent Carlos Ruiz]

[FBIS Translated Text] Chinandega—A ranking military officer has told BARRICADA here in Chinandega that the Oriental Market is the main weapons supply center for Central American gunrunners who, on a daily basis, try to smuggle weapons across the northern border into Honduras.

Yesterday morning, EPS [Sandinist People's Army] soldiers captured two minors as they attempted to bring several bags containing an undisclosed amount of military supplies into Honduras. Felipe Alfredo Zuniga, 13, and Juan Ivan Pereira, 12, were detained in Las Minitas after they were caught carrying military supplies on the back of a horse in leather saddlebags to give the impression that they were carrying provisions.

One source reported that soldiers discovered four collapsible AK rifles, 100 bullets for M-62 rifles, six metal cartridges, and seven bolts for AK rifles purchased by unidentified individuals at the Oriental Market. The minors said that they were hired by unidentified people to carry the weapons into Honduras where they were to be received by gunrunners.

A lieutenant who requested anonymity told BARRICADA that customs inspectors and Army troops detect no more than 10 percent of the military supplies smuggled into Central America's northern region. The weapons are smuggled from one side of the border to blind spots such as La Tiguilotada, La Salvia, and Potosi, among others.

In recent months, authorities in the western region have seized a large quantity of weapons, launches, and outboard motors used to transfer illegal migrants to Salvadoran territory. These migrants include Chinese, Colombians, Spaniards, Indians, and Peruvians.

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According the military source, many of them drowned in the rough seas after their small crafts capsized.

Sandinists To Purge Members Favoring Renewal

PA0512173594 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Dec 94

[From the "News 2000" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Orthodox Sandinists will purge four members of the National Directorate because they favor the renewal movement.

Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] renewal movement leader Dr. Sergio Ramirez Mercado said this weekend in Malpaisillo that the FSLN orthodox sector is preparing to carry out a purge at the National Directorate level. Dr. Ramirez said that the next persons to be purged from the FSLN National Directorate will be Commanders Henry Ruiz, Luis Carrion Cruz, Dora Maria Tellez, and Dr. Misarna Cunningham, just for supporting the FSLN's renewal movement.

In the last secret meeting of the orthodox group, they also agreed to appoint Nathan Sevilla as head of the small faction of FSLN radical deputies in parliament. The orthodox faction is said to comprise Nathan Sevilla, Damaso Vargas, Francisco Rivera, Roberto Laguna, and Gladys Baez. The renewal movement leader, in addition to Malpaisillo, also visited Chichigalpa this weekend, where villagers greeted him with great enthusiasm, despite efforts by the orthodox to disrupt Dr. Ramirez' visit.

New BARRICADA Chairman Interviewed

95CA0042A Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Nov 94 pp 1, 4

[Interview with FSLN Commander Tomas Borge by Juan Ramon Huerta; place and date not given—first two paragraphs are BARRICADA introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] The new chairman of BARRICADA's Editorial Board, Commander Tomas Borge, speaking to approximately 200 workers of *Editorial El Amanecer* [Dawn Publishing House], said that with his journalists, he will make BARRICADA "a flexible, attractive, wide-ranging, and professional publication."

Several minutes after his appointment, Borge, a founder of the Sandinist Front, in a room filled with baroque paintings and crafts, responded to some concerns about the newspaper's fate, in an extensive interview which we are publishing below.

[Huerta] Do these changes mean a radical shift in BARRICADA's editorial policy, a policy that was approved in 1991?

[Borge] Almost four years ago when the BARRICADA reorganization was approved, its editorial line was set, but it has not been applied.

The newspaper was supposed to be autonomous in relation to the Sandinist Front, and under the pretext of carrying that out, the paper was aligned with one faction of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front]. It began to abandon national interests in order to promote the interests of a minority group, which included BARRICADA's former director.

[Huerta] What does the concept of national interests mean in this context?

[Borge] Identifying with national interests may be interpreted in many ways. But it does not mean supporting interests that have always been against the popular sectors.

The interests of private enterprise and of the wealthy are not the only national interests. Identifying with national interests implies identifying with the interests of the future of the nation, with those of the majority of the Nicaraguan people, with their historic roots, and with their future.

It means identifying with national dignity and national sovereignty, with the Nonaligned Movement, and promoting a developed economy that will serve the people.

The Sandinist Front has been the best historic advocate of our national interests. And we want this newspaper to identify with national interests. I say this because doing so had apparently come to imply moving away from Sandinism, or even being anti-Sandinist, when the truth is absolutely the opposite.

In other words, this thesis had led to an infiltration of a shameful attitude toward the party, which is the newspaper's material and spiritual owner.

In a stricter sense, serving national interests today means aiding the struggle for stability in Nicaragua, promoting production and producers and all the other social sectors that participate tangentially in this process.

How can we serve our national interests if we do not report on the just struggle of women, if we do not defend our environment that is deteriorating more every day, if we do not help to solve the problems of begging and poverty and the abandonment of children?

[Huerta] What impact will BARRICADA have on the sociopolitical and economic changes the nation needs?

[Borge] We must be on our guard against exclusive and sectarian ideas and ideas that do not respect the state of law and human rights, in particular the right to information and to freedom of expression.

It may not be a newspaper's function to change the nation, but rather to reflect, to report evidence of the changes that social agents are promoting on a daily basis. So it should come as no surprise that in this way—even though BARRICADA may not take an activist role here—it may contribute to the FSLN's aspirations to again return to government office.

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[Huerta] What do you think of Carlos Fernando Chamorro?

[Borge] If I had to look for a comrade with professional journalistic qualities, with personal charm and other virtues, I would have to say that that person is Carlos Fernando Chamorro.

But if I had to look for a director of a newspaper identified with the FSLN's revolutionary objectives, in harmony with its ambitions for power and its political line in today's conditions, that person is not Carlos Fernando Chamorro. It is too bad that the two characteristics do not coincide.

[Huerta] Will journalists have autonomy in the Sandinist Front's newspaper?

[Borge] We have discussed the newspaper's autonomy. Obviously, the newspaper must be autonomous within the universe of the FSLN's interests, as we have said. The Sandinist Front's National Directorate is not going to run BARRICADA. The newspaper must be run by an Editorial Board—which is the paper's strategic guide—and by its director.

[Huerta] So what will BARRICADA's profile be?

[Borge] BARRICADA's editorial profile has not been sufficiently discussed. An interesting proposal has been made that it should be studied, discussed by the paper's journalists and workers, and even by the Sandinist Assembly, and then be stated in a document that will have explicit majority support. That should be the paper's line of conduct.

[Huerta] Is it true that BARRICADA will again become the official organ of the FSLN?

[Borge] This in no way implies the creation of a strictly party organ, of a demagogic rag, or a party newsletter. It does mean making BARRICADA into a professional, very wide-ranging, and flexible newspaper that will provide space for all our national thought, that will express—essentially—the Sandinist style of seeing this country's political and social contradictions.

It will not exclude, of course, the viewpoint of people who, inside Sandinism, do not agree with the views of the majority, or who, outside the FSLN, have other concepts of the social future.

[Huerta] Is there censorship in BARRICADA now?

[Borge] It is strange that the supposed censors have not censored anything, and that the political commissars have even been insulted in the very newspaper they are supposedly censoring. The other day there was a protest against "censorship," and the most space was given to that news item in BARRICADA, where censorship is supposedly practiced.

[Huerta] Is there resentment among you about this situation?

[Borge] Despite the unjust way we were treated, despite the way in which the role entrusted to Lumberto Campbell as director and to me as delegate of the Sandinist Assembly was made to appear, and now, at the proposal of Commander Bayardo Arce, as chairman of the board and of Editorial El Amanecer, we do not bear any resentment toward those comrades.

We realize that all this took place in a context in which there was ill will attributable to the change in director.

[Huerta] Will there be layoffs at BARRICADA?

[Borge] Naturally, in the calls for this change, such a position was taken in the Sandinist Assembly and thousands and thousands of Sandinists expressed such demands in departmental assemblies.

The Sandinist Assembly itself was under great pressure, and the National Directorate wanted to be very prudent until the time came when it was impossible to continue putting off that decision.

Our decision has been very respectful: apart from replacing the director—which we have the right to do, as everyone recognizes—it was decided not to fire anyone; on the contrary, we are going to create more favorable conditions for the professional performance of those who produce BARRICADA.

We are going to hold discussions here in much more democratic terms than exist in any other newspaper in the country. In papers on the right, the center, and also on the left, directors are changed, high-level staffers are replaced, and nobody protests. Only with us are such demands made, and that is because people know the value that we place on democratic discussion.

We do respect this, but it may mean nothing more than the majority opinion of the Sandinists and of their assembly. In EL SEMANARIO directors have been fired for the same reason as here, and nobody said a word; the same thing has also happened at LA TRIBUNA; and in LA PRENSA the director and co-owner of the paper, Cristiana Chamorro, was removed.

In none of those daily and weekly publications is the editorial line discussed with the journalists and workers. We are going to hold such discussions in our paper. This is highly democratic.

I wonder if other members of the print media have done this. I am sure they have not, but we are going to do so in BARRICADA. That is a substantial difference.

Owners, Editors Profiled

95CA0042B Managua LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 4 Nov 94 pp 1, 8A

[Article by Alvaro Cruz Rojas]

[FBIS Translated Text] A corporation made up of prominent Sandinist leaders including Bayardo Arce and Joaquin Cuadra Chamorro is now supposed to be the

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owner of the newspaper BARRICADA, and not the Sandinist Front as a party. This was revealed on Thursday by BARRICADA journalists.

"Now it seems that the paper does not belong to the Front, but rather to some leaders who by some magic arts have become shareholders," said one journalist who asked not to be identified. "'Pinatization' [property confiscation] is a reality."

According to the reporters, yesterday the paper's manager, Ronaldo Gomez, showed them the document of the Board of Directors of El Amanecer Publishing House in which Joaquin Cuadra Chamorro, the father of General Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, is listed as the majority stockholder, with 96 percent of the shares.

The remaining four percent is distributed equitably among the former chairman of the paper, Bayardo Arce; the former minister of industry, Gilberto Guzman; Rosa Argentina Solis, currently with the General Customs Directorate; and the former director of the paper, Carlos Fernando Chamorro.

"That surprised us because for 15 years they told us that this paper was the property of the Sandinist Front," said journalist Alfonso Malespin, president of BARRICADA's Workers Union.

"It was very frustrating for us to learn that we were working for an organization that now turns out not to be the owner," said Malespin. "Those who made these decisions need to explain this, as all the actions of the Front and of the Sandinist Assembly were illegal, as they were not BARRICADA's owner; its owner is someone else."

Moreover, the paper's new management offered to pay the 18 journalists who wish to leave only two weeks of salary, creating major unhappiness among them.

"Why does the Sandinist Front not apply the same standard for their own workers that it demanded of other bosses?" said one journalist who refused to be identified. "They could also have given us 25 percent of the company."

"This demonstrates the Sandinist Front's duplicity," he added.

Julio Lopez and William Grigsby Move to BARRICADA

The newspaper's Board of Directors has confirmed the former minister of the interior during the 1980's, Tomas Borge, as chairman of the Board of Directors and of the Editorial Council of BARRICADA.

It also confirmed as a new member of the board a former military officer, Lumberto Campbell, who directed the military region of South Zelaya, a man whom human rights organizations have challenged for his presumed involvement in abuses of prisoners.

One new addition to the paper is a sociologist and former Baptist minister, Julio Lopez Campos, who was named deputy director. Lopez is married to Monica Baltodano and ran the FSLN's [Sandinist National Liberation Front] International Relations Department. In 1980 he was interim director of BARRICADA during a period when Chamorro was away.

The new editors of the paper are William Grigsby Vado and Jose Reyes Monterrey.

Grigsby was a member of the FSLN's Department of Agitation and Propaganda, which Chamorro ran, and the former editor of EL NUEVO DIARIO.

Grigsby was expelled from the FSLN in 1983 after writing a series of articles for EL NUEVO DIARIO criticizing the standards of living of the families of Humberto and Daniel Ortega. In 1990 Grigsby accused Humberto Ortega of being responsible for the explosion of the transmitting tower of La Primerisima station, which he himself ran.

Reyes Monterrey was director of EL CENTROAMERICANO of Leon, and during the 1980's he worked as a speechwriter for Borge at the Ministry of the Interior. Other former MINT [Ministry of Interior] employees who have been hired at BARRICADA are: Fernando Solis, Mayra Reyes, and Judith Ruiz, the former secretary of Lenin Cerna.

Claudia Chamorro Sends Open Letter to Ortega

95CA0042C Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 3 Nov 94 p 4

[Open letter to FSLN Secretary General Daniel Ortega by Claudia Chamorro]

[FBIS Translated Text] To Commander Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the FSLN, Managua, Nicaragua:

Because of the events culminating in the removal of Carlos Fernando Chamorro as director of the newspaper BARRICADA, and in the attacks against journalists of other media, my conscience demands that I write this open letter to you.

I do not intend to defend anyone who does not deserve to be defended, and my position as Carlos Fernando's sister only allows me to give more intimate testimony to what everyone knows from his public life: his commitment to the cause of the poor; his honesty and personal generosity; his faithfulness to the principles of true Sandinism, despite the high personal and family cost this has meant for him; his professionalism as a journalist and his fraternity with his comrades. But I do intend to express some comments that seem pertinent to me.

This abuse displays on your part, and on the part of the members of the National Directorate who supported you, immense disrespect for the community of workers of BARRICADA; you are disregarding their statements defending the paper's editorial line, and you are treating

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them like a flock of sheep who just need to have their shepherd changed. How wrong you are! In addition, it is disgraceful for you to cite management reasons to resolve a problem with the workers. This is the saddest ending a person who once was a revolutionary could have.

Carlos Fernando lasted so long as director of BARRICADA because he had the ability to find the equilibrium and balance necessary to project the precarious unity of Sandinism forcefully and with a single voice. Now you will change BARRICADA from a newspaper in which all Sandinists could see ourselves reflected in our plurality into an exclusive mouthpiece for Danielism. And that will expand the process that you are promoting of destroying the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front].

The gradual destruction of the FSLN has its roots in your obvious incapacity to accept political tolerance, and also in your particular ability to repeat violent, authoritarian, and antidemocratic methods which have become increasingly characteristic of your leadership. In addition, you head the group of leaders who expropriated from Sandinism its principal asset: honesty and morality. I must say this to you straight out: the immense majority of honest Sandinists bear the burden of the negative ethical stigma that a few people imposed on us with the "pinata." [property confiscation] You were busy protecting yourself and protecting a few others, and so were unable to defend the honor of the vast majority of honest Sandinists and those who live in abject poverty. Then there is the fact that the interests of the nation have been set aside to leave room for all sort of paltry and personal ambitions.

And do not tell me, commander, that this is the protest of a rich bourgeoisie. It is my greatest pride to be a part of the immense majority of Sandinists and workers and honest people, and to be able to say that despite my origins, I own no companies, no property; I have no support other than what my work gives me. There are others, few of course, who without having anything before, can now live without working and as wealthy people; they talk of the bourgeoisie and live as such; they talk of workers and act like bosses. This is something for which you owe an explanation.

[Signed] Claudia Chamorro

[Dated] 31 October 1994, Potomac, Maryland

Panama

Canal Administrator: Inefficiency 'Worst Enemy'

PA0512164894 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1440 GMT 4 Dec 94

[Report by Franco Rojas]

[FBIS Translated Text] Panama City, 4 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—Gilberto Guardia, the Panamanian administrator of the Canal, has said that the competition the Panama Canal has is the creation of alternate routes between the Pacific and the Atlantic, the pipelines, and the changes in world trade patterns. He added that its internal enemy is "inefficiency."

Guardia, an engineer, emphasized that the Canal's worst enemy is within: It is "inefficiency" and administrative incompetence.

ACAN-EFE asked Guardia if in time, new modes of transporation, North-South economic relations, and Panamanian public opinion could be enemies of the Canal, Guardia said: "The Canal's true competitors are more efficient alternate routes or changes in trade patterns."

According to Guardia, the so-called "dry docks" (ground transportation) do not represent any competition for the Canal. However, he conceded that the pipelines are means of transportation the waterway cannot compete with.

He also admitted that the transportation of containers from coast to coast in the United States has claimed a "very high percentage" in the growth of cargo by containers, but it also indicated that the Canal handles an increasing number of container traffic.

The Panamanian administrator of the Canal—a waterway that the United States must turn over to Panama on 31 December 1999 in accordance with the 1977 treaties signed by the two countries—highlighted that the enemies of the Canal are the same any business has: "The competitors."

"I would say that there is no reason for the Canal to have any enemies because it renders a service to the world," Guardia explained and noted that the Canal administration cannot have any control over changes in the patterns of world trade or in the creation of new routes.

As an example, he cited that of China, which is emerging as one of the big commercial-industrial powers, and said that it may start supplying markets supplied in the past by the United States, and this could result in a drop in the traffic through the Panama Canal.

More than 1,000 ships go through the Canal, which is 80 kilometers long, every month. These ships pay a toll based on their cargo. The Canal was opened in 1914.

Guardia also noted that China could become an important supplier for the United States, which could result in an increase in ship traffic through the Canal.

The traffic patterns are determined by the patterns of world trade and the latter are the ones that determine the need to use the Panama Canal, he explained.

He also rejected the idea that the Canal will be doomed unless widening and modernization works are carried

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out to permit the transit of large vessels, which are currently being built by industrial superpowers.

With regard to this, he explained that work is underway to widen the so-called "Gaillard Cut," the Canal's narrowest and shallowest passage. However, he noted that the "panamax" vessels, of approximately 65,000 tons, cross the Canal without any problems.

Guardia remarked that the average weight of a vessel that crosses the Canal is 16,000 tons, and "this means that we are far from reaching the maximum tonnage."

He added that not all of the "panamax" vessels will be crossing the Canal and that there will always be traffic of smaller ships due to economic factors, as well as cargo charateristics.

He noted that the "post-panamax" vessels that are being built for other routes could also travel through the Panama Canal if a third set of locks is built. However, building this set would not be justified for a small amount of traffic.

To justify this investment, which would cost millions of dollars, Guardia said, we would need to have a "very large" demand from ships that size, which would have to constantly be crossing the Canal.

With regard to a lack of funds on the part of the Panamanian Government to start such big Canal projects, Guardia recalled that there are international credit organizations that are willing to finance them if they are profitable.

The Panamanian official said that to make the widening of the Canal economically feasible, there must be a demand that would make it profitable, and Panama can carry out the project without any problems, using international credit.

More than 8,000 people, most of them Panamanians, work in the Canal. The areas along the Canal are being reverted to Panama. These areas are valued at more than $30 billion.

President Said Not Implementing Reconciliation

PA0512185494 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 5 Dec 94 p A-1

[Report by Juan Manuel Diaz]

[FBIS Translated Text] Opposition parties attending the Third Meeting on "Unity and Human Development" (Bambito III) have accused President Ernesto Perez Balladares of failing to implement so-called national reconciliation and disrespecting the institutionality of the powers of the state.

The interim president of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), Camilo Brenes, has said actions toward that goal have not materialized now that Perez Balladares is president despite frequent calls by him during his electoral campaign for national reconciliation.

Brenes has said the executive also "could be undermining" the democratic institution with his constant interference in the decisions of other state agencies, such as in the Miller case, which is being debated in the Legislative Assembly, and the Interoceanic Region Authority (ARI).

Meanwhile, President Ernesto Balladares asked for in his opening speech greater collaboration between political parties to consolidate the democratic process.

The Panamanian president has said one of the greatest risks the democratic system faces is corruption, adding "drastic" correctives would be implemented to avoid corruption, because sustained development is not possible while the government structure and society are pervaded by it.

Perez Balladares has said neither his administration nor his party have adopted an inflexible position in the consolidation of a program for national conciliation.

He also has encouraged the use of various options and counseling organizations to find solutions.

Also attending Bambito III are union leaders, the private sector, members of the ARI, and former Latin American presidents.

Troyano: No More Concessions To Join GATT

PA0712044594 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Dec 94

[From the "Telemetro Reports" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Jose Troyano, deputy minister of planning and economic policy, has said that Panama is unwilling to make any more concession regarding the exchange of services in order to join GATT. The high-ranking official said at the economic council meeting that 173 products will be protected. He explained, however, that the country is willing to join the competitive economy. He also said that February is the right time to resume negotiations with the United States.

Report Reveals Stagnation of International Banks

PA0512232994 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Dec 94 p 33A

[Report by Edith Castillo Duarte]

[FBIS Translated Text] A Panama Banking Association report covering the past four years indicates that internationally licensed banking activity has been stagnate since 1988, when the banks experienced their lowest point since the successes of 1982. General banks, however, have experienced marked improvement. The study concludes that this situation is due to the difference between the interest rates paid by local banks and that paid on the U.S. market.

Foreign nonbanking deposits in the Panamanian banking center increased "only" $783 million in the past four years, an indication of "the loss of international

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interest in the local market and a sign that banking business standards and the country's image must be changed if financial activities in the country are to be kept at an important level," the document states.

While general banks' liquidity increased $3.46 billion from 1990 to 1993, that of internationally licensed banks increased $481 million. While total liquidity during this period increased $784 million, the credit portfolio decreased as a result of the reduction experienced in 1993. "The decrease in international bank loans during this period involved several coinciding factors in the great Latin American financial markets in 1993," the report further states. The factors mentioned include expectations regarding the outcome of the Mexican elections, doubts about whether Argentina's economic program is sustainable, and fears about Brazil's economic instability. "Banking investments tend to be prompted by what happens in foreign markets, not by what happens in the Panamanian market," the study continues.

The total resources of general banks increased $10.202 billion from 1990 to 1993. Their credit portfolios increased $6.212 million and liquidity $3.460 billion. New local loans, amounting to $2.055 billion, however, increased less than total liquidity, both internal and external.

During the aforementioned period, the Panamanian banking center exported capital with a net worth of $7.433 billion, 93.2 percent of which corresponded to general banks and the rest, 6.8 percent, to internationally licensed banks. The resources of general banks increased by $10.202 million, which offset to a large extent the $11.003 billion lost in 1988 and 1989. Nevertheless, 53.8 percent of these fresh funds came from interbank investments, particularly foreign investments, which took advantage of high interest rates on the local market to the detriment of rates on other markets, the report says.

Internal deposits at general banks have increased $2.485 billion over the past three years. In addition, $606 million, or 91.5 percent, of the local deposits that had been withdrawn in the two previous years of crisis returned to the system in 1990, the first year of the system's opening. "Deposits at internationally licensed banks have not been as dynamic as local deposits." In the period of time covered by the study, such deposits increased $321 million, or 15.5 percent of the $2.066 billion that had been withdrawn following the 1988 crisis.

Minister Cites Cuts in Agricultural Development

PA0512194594 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 5 Dec 94 p E-16

[Report by Carlos Anel Cordero]

[FBIS Translated Text] Agricultural Development Minister Carlos Sousa Lennox said yesterday central government budget cutbacks in the Agricultural Development Ministry (MIDA) will affect efforts to modernize the Panamanian agricultural sector with a view to joining GATT.

The minister has said a process of modernization is needed so as to avoid affecting the agricultural sector with Panama's adherence to GATT, and productive sectors have to be given extra technical advice in order to achieve this goal. He has said the designed goals will be delayed and will not be completed within the programmed timeframe.

The MIDA budget for 1995 amounts to $27 million, and it was cut by more than $21 million. Sousa has said MIDA had planned to give independent technical advice to each production sector aimed at guiding it toward modernization.

The idea is for national producers to improve their quality and also to increase their production capacity. Nevertheless, he has said a series of alternatives will be implemented to back the sector based on available resources. The alternatives cannot be applied quickly due to a lack of resources, but the idea is to change the sector's working structure to give it the capacity to compete in the international market.

A second round of negotiations will begin aimed at Panama's entry into GATT at the beginning of 1995, specifically in mid-February, given that no agreements were reached in the November meeting. Panamanian and U.S. negotiators reached no agreement during the first round of talks, because both countries rejected each other's proposals, because they did not consider them beneficial.

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Argentina

Cabinet Seeks To Change U.S. Decision on Pampa

PY0612142494 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Dec (TELAM)—The Argentine Government will keep trying to convince the U.S. Government to change its mind about technical objections to the Pampa 2000 airplane, which is participating in a U.S. bid for the purchase of 711 training planes.

At the end of a cabinet meeting at the Olivos presidential residence on 5 December, Argentine Interior Minister Carlos Ruckauf said: "The issue now is whether the buyer would be willing to change his mind."

Ruckauf reported on the cabinet meeting and explained that the establishment of a Lockheed airplane factory in Cordoba Province "had nothing to do" with the international bid in which the Argentine plane is participating.

Ruckauf stated that Defense Minister Oscar Camilion explained during the meeting that unlike its competitors the Pampa plane "has hydraulic instead of mechanical controls."

He explained that "this has led the U.S. Air Force to decide that the Pampa is more advanced than the kind of plane they would like to use to train their pilots."

Ruckauf added: "This is not a new development." He then mentioned the difference "between a car with an automatic gearbox and one with a manual gearbox."

He said: "All things being equal, the car with an automatic gearbox is more sensitive, and the same applies to planes." He also said: "Following an evaluation it would appear that the U.S. experts prefer mechanical controls to hydraulic ones."

Ruckauf answered a question by saying that he did not believe Argentina "had made a mistake or had been misinformed" about the design or technical specifications for the plane. As far as Ruckauf is concerned, "it is simply a matter of what the client wants from a given product."

Asked about the defense minister's report on the subject, he explained: "If one goes on the market with a number of options, the buyer has the right to chose an option that meets certain specifications. Therefore, the issue now is whether it is possible that the buyer might change his mind."

As to the establishment of the Lockheed plane factory in Cordoba Province, Ruckauf made it clear that it has nothing to do with the bid in which the Pampa plane is participating.

He said: "The two things are completely separate. Lockheed wants to set up a repair shop in Argentina, while the U.S. Air Force wants to purchase training planes."

Ruckauf reported that according to Defense Minister Camilion, "the establishment of the Lockheed plant will allow those working in the Cordoba Materiel Complex to keep their jobs." He quoted Camilion as saying that "the Lockheed repair shop will create new jobs and provide currently nonexistent maintenance services for civilian aircraft."

President Carlos Menem presided over the cabinet meeting, which began at 1225 and ended at 1500 local time at the Olivos presidential residence. All the ministers of the executive branch were present except for Justice Minister Rodolfo Barra.

Ministries Blame Each Other in Pampa Issue

PY0612214894 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 6 Dec 94 p 5

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Following a cabinet meeting, the Defense and Foreign Ministries accused each other of failing to sell the Pampa plane to the United States, which has removed the Argentine Defense Ministry from a multimillion international bid. Pentagon technicians stated publicly that the Pampa was removed from the bid because of "technical deficiencies." This has harmed the potential of the plane in markets throughout the world.

High-ranking Defense Ministry sources told CLARIN that the decision to disqualify the Argentine designed training plane "is more political than economic, so the Foreign Ministry must assume the responsibility." The Defense Ministry rejects commentaries from Washington, and stresses that the plane has been disqualified from the 700 plane bid due to its "sophisticated" level.

Blaming the Foreign Ministry for the lack of political response in defense of the projected sale, the Defense Ministry stresses that Raul Granillo Ocampo, Argentine ambassador to Washington, should have never said the plane was disqualified due to "technical deficiencies." Irritated with the Foreign Ministry, a Defense Ministry source said: "The ambassador should never have used those words because it signals a virtual disappearance of the Pampa from the international scene."

The Foreign Ministry was quick to reply. A high-ranking Foreign Ministry source told CLARIN: "The Pampa bid was managed directly between the Defense Ministry and the Pentagon. We did everything that was asked of us." Describing the Defense Ministry accusations as "senseless," the Foreign Ministry asked: "Why did the Defense Ministry say for months that everything was going very well and now it wants to find a scapegoat?" [passage omitted]

Editorial Views Americas Summit Agenda

PY0612024294 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 4 Dec 94 p 8

[Editorial: "The 'Summit of the Americas'"]

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[FBIS Translated Text] By convening the summit of presidents of the Americas, scheduled to begin in Miami on 8 December, the U.S. Government confirms its specific interest in keeping a harmonious and close relationship with the rest of the continent and enhancing its hemispheric leadership, which has frequently been recognized and frequently resisted—depending on the political winds—throughout history.

On this occasion, the shadows of the Cold War have vanished. This cause for tension that, for a period of nearly 50 years, hindered efforts and blemished the prospects for a beneficial and mutually advantageous cooperation, has disappeared. Nowadays, virtually all of Latin America adheres to democratic principles and the market and free choice canons that represent the backbone of the economic policy prevailing in our region. Even though the market and free choice laws do not represent a rigid guideline, it represents—at least—a desirable goal of a progressing transformation.

The initiatives for enhanced cooperation between North America and South America are old—more than 150 years old—but involve countless frustrations of Latin America's hopes for economic development for the improvement of the Latin American peoples' standard of living. Assistance and cooperation mechanisms have always been insufficient for real necessities and politicized claims and the regional governments very seldom managed to streamline their economies, which hoped to become self-sufficient and grew very slowly, without being able to reduce the gap separating them from the industrialized nations.

The United States has usually found on this side of the Rio Grande governments with little legal support, unstable politics, inflation, scarce infrastructure, ideological resistance mechanisms, restrictions on investment, and xenophobic protectionism, quite often a response to exaggerated claims from or attitudes on the part of their potential partners.

Washington, which, during the past 15 years, has been extending the democratic system all over the world as a fundamental goal and has certainly achieved notable success in doing this, now discovers that it has not achieved a similar result—despite the advancement achieved in the Uruguay Round of GATT talks—with its proposals to deregulate international trade and hopes to establish an influential space in which the movement of goods, capital, and technology will take place without major restrictions.

By creating NAFTA, the United States has established an appropriate mechanism to pursue this goal. Nevertheless, if it was necessary to wait for Mexico to implement thorough economic reforms and—with some hesitation—a true democratization to establish this association, it is unavoidably necessary to believe that it will take a long time and it will be necessary to hope for many changes in a group of nations so diverse (despite the well-known historic and idiomatic similarities) and with such disparate circumstances. It is healthy to revive George Bush's idea of establishing a large common market "between Alaska and Tierra del Fuego," but it would be naive to believe that it will be operational in a short time.

No one would expect tangible and spectacular short-term results after the Miami summit. Nevertheless, the 35 presidents who will attend the summit are harboring the hope of adding their aspirations to the text of the agreements that, most likely, will be the outcome of three days of talks that have been preceded by many weeks of technical and diplomatic efforts. It may be foreseen that the texts of the agreements will not soothe the Latin American impatience and will merely be a formal expression of shared concerns and good intentions that may, at best, only very slowly, partially, and gradually become a reality.

The preparatory work, coordinated by the State Department, led to establishing an agenda of two dozen issues that may be rated by their political, economic, or social interest. With regard to political issues, a clear consensus on the advantages of pluralist democracies is expected and the deliberations will focus on the only head of government of our hemisphere who has not been invited, precisely for exercising dictatorial power: Fidel Castro. It is also expected that the presidents will briefly discuss Washington's unclear leadership, as demonstrated—despite the results achieved—by the Haitian case.

It will not be difficult to achieve agreements on the necessity of reducing poverty and improving health and education services in the entire continent as well as the goals of improving and protecting the environment. Nevertheless, great care must be taken with agreements on this issue because they will include economic assessments that are among the most conflictive points of the agenda.

In fact, it seems that the United States requires the implementation of social protection and ecological security policies for this proposal to integrate the Americas into a huge free trade zone. The implementation of these social protection and ecological security policies represents a high cost for various economies that would kill their competitive capacities. These requirements are being interpreted—and, from a certain viewpoint, rightly—as neoprotectionism [neoproteccionismo].

Nevertheless, even without these requirements, the full deregulation of hemispheric trade is being viewed as a long-term possibility. After accepting this as a goal, discussions may be summarized by Southern pressures to establish a date and Washington's resistance with regard to taking on concrete commitments.

The idea of a progressive economic integration between the two extremes of the continent, through trade without any type of barriers, is under way. Nevertheless, it will be a slow and hazardous path, exposed to all types of risks and uncertainties. For Latin America, integration, a free

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trade zone, would not represent a method along the path of development, but a prize at the finish line.

Falkland Islanders Willing To Renew Ties

PY0612163994 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2141 GMT 5 Dec 94

[All figures as received]

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Dec (TELAM)—According to Andres Cisneros, general secretary of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, the fact that 12 percent of Malvinas residents are willing to resume contacts with Argentina is very encouraging.

Cisneros made this remark on 5 December in response to various interpretations of the survey that a British consulting firm conducted among the islanders about the possibility of accepting indemnity payments in exchange for sovereignty.

The Foreign Ministry secretary general said: "Argentina's interpretation of the results of the survey is accurate, and the British are wrong, because they are basing their reading of the results on false premises."

He added: "The fact that 12 percent of the islanders are prepared to resume commercial contacts and negotiations with Argentina shows that there is interest, and even if the sovereignty issue is not addressed at this point, it means that the path is being paved for the future."

According to the British consulting firm Mori, which carried out the survey among the islanders, "the Kelpers are unwilling to negotiate with Argentina."

Cisneros answered a TELAM question by saying that "74 percent of the islanders want to fight illegal fishing in the area, while 29 percent want to resume contacts and negotiations with Argentina in connection with the wool trade."

He added: "This shows that the British are using false arguments, because if 28 percent of the islanders are speculating about the amount of indemnity they could receive, one could hardly say that the whole thing is hypothetical."

Cisneros said: "Once trade and commerce are accepted, it is simply a matter of time before sovereignty comes up for discussion." He also emphasized: "We should make it clear, however, that Argentina is not discussing the Malvinas issue with the islanders, but with Great Britain."

He stated: "One should bear in mind that the sovereignty issue is not up for discussion at this point. At this point we want to talk about trade and commerce; that is the important thing now."

The results of the survey, which was done with the help of the Argentine consulting firm Manuel Mora y Araujo, Noguera y Asociados, revealed that the islanders are inclined to begin negotiating fishing and other issues with Argentina.

The survey also showed that the owners of cattle estates who actually live in London, from where they manage their estates on the islands, are the main opponents of commercial negotiations with Argentina.

As far as Cisneros is concerned, "the fact that the younger islanders displayed an interest in negotiating modern trade with Argentina is important, even though sovereignty will not be addressed yet."

In an article published in the Buenos Aires daily CLARIN on 3 December, Cisneros stated that the Mori survey "shows that the British claim that islanders stand united against a rapprochement toward Argentina is a fallacy."

The Foreign Ministry secretary general also said that "the idea of paying indemnities to the islanders came from an aide to former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, not from Argentina."

Cisneros told TELAM that "bearing this in mind, the Argentine Government is simply taking into account an idea, which may be either good or bad, for when the time comes to start negotiating sovereignty."

He concluded: "Meanwhile, the survey told us that at least 28 percent of the islanders are willing to consider an indemnity payment" and "30 percent have never heard about this proposal."

Bolivia

President Interviewed on Summit of Americas

PA0712043494 Mexico City REFORMA in Spanish 6 Dec 94 p 22A

[Interview with President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada by Miguel Angel Juarez and Julieta Medina; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [REFORMA] What do you think are the specific advances that should result from the Miami summit?

[Sanchez de Lozada] A declaration that NAFTA is going to be a hemispheric treaty; to come up with a date, let us say the year 2000; and to establish the minimum conditions and path this process should follow.

[REFORMA] Within this context, what role do you attribute to the sovereignty of the Latin American countries?

[Sanchez de Lozada] We have seen in Europe that sovereignty is compatible with the Common Market. Obviously, when you join the community you give up some sovereignty. Nevertheless, we believe that unity is created from diversity and is not incompatible.

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The [word indistinct] of imperialism, large countries are still exerting pressure on the small countries, and this is more dangerous to the sovereignty of nations than a concerted process of economic, social, and political integration. I think what we are experiencing now, when we are completely independent and when unilateral decisions are being made, is less dangerous. We obviously believe we can better protect our sovereignty by uniting rather than by remaining separate.

[REFORMA] You have just mentioned what you expect from the Miami summit. What role do the United States and Mexico play in obtaining such a declaration?

[Sanchez de Lozada] There is a transition process in Mexico, and these things take time. I do not think Mexico is concentrating on this topic that is confronting us. Second, the United States is still trying to digest the major political change resulting from the November elections.

I do not think the two main players have a position as of yet, but at least I will be working, so we will do something in earnest.

[REFORMA] Speaking of players, there is an important one who will not be at the summit: Cuba. It is said that this summit will tend to isolate Cuba more from the rest of Latin America.

[Sanchez de Lozada] First, we have to accept that the United States is the host, that it has invited us, and that the Cuban problem is not with the rest of Latin America, it is with the United States.

This reality must be accepted. The Cuban situation is a reality we hope will be resolved in the not too distant future with solutions based on consensus, dialogue, and change. I think what is discussed at this summit may encourage Cuba to move toward rapprochement rather than to distance itself, because in several private and public meetings, Fidel has said he would put aside many of the personal or ideological issues involving Cuba if it were for something greater that would benefit the Latin Americans and our hemispheric community.

Ironically, it might be that if we are able to reach agreement, conditions will be created to make the solution of the Cuban problem more accessible.

We are all obliged to change. Some of us do so with more success than others.

The Cuban situation cannot remain static, but at the same time neither can the island continue to be blockaded in the face of a situation in which change must be encouraged.

[REFORMA] What proposals have you made to President Ernesto Zedillo during your visit to Mexico?

[Sanchez de Lozada] There are several topics. There is a perception that now that NAFTA exists, Mexico is going to distance itself from the unity of Latin America and South America. President Zedillo has assured me that this is not going to be the case; that several free trade agreements have been reached with Venezuela, Colombia, and Bolivia; and that Mexico feels it has an obligation to serve as a bridge to the hemisphere, between the Anglo-Saxon community and the Latin American community. The other proposal is to fully support, within the framework of the United Nations, solutions to the problem of drug trafficking, about which there has not been a world summit since 1988. Mexico is interested in gathering the international community to address this topic, and we agree. We also touched on topics of interest to Mexico and Bolivia, because Bolivia is like Mexico 50 years ago. We invited him to visit Bolivia. There is much we can learn. The importance of the Andean Pact also was stressed. The topic of the Indian communities also was discussed. This is a Latin American problem, and we have to find a way to resolve it.

[REFORMA] Did you ask the president not to allow Mexico to separate itself from Latin America?

[Sanchez de Lozada] I have told him, in the frank fashion that unfortunately characterizes me, that there is a feeling that Mexico, with all of its major problems and large-scale changes, might try to handle the very dramatic steps it is taking by putting aside its contacts within the Latin American community. However, he assured us this is not the case. Although Mexico has a large agenda for changes and major problems, it believes it will play its role and will continue to be a bridge between the Latin American and Anglo-Saxon communities.

[REFORMA] Although only the economic field is being addressed, it seems that Simon Bolivar's dreams will become a reality thanks the Miami summit.

[Sanchez de Lozada] I believe that his dreams will become a reality in more than just the economic field. There are other integration processes as well. We are democratic communities. There are more perfect and more imperfect communities, but we are united politically, and we are aware that democracy must be more participative. We are more aware of this now. We are struggling to create a truly independent judicial branch in Bolivia.

As I was listening to the president of Mexico, I noticed that there is a big difference between our economies, but, at least, when viewed from a distance, we have the same problems: education and poverty. I believe there are many things and problems, and many things that are uniting us more than ever. We are also accepting our differences, but we are not trying to be equal. There are very different issues that have their own characteristics. We have no overriding network by which we can agree to associate, relate, and cooperate with the international economic community.

[REFORMA] There was a coca-cocaine dialogue in Bolivia. Is there a possibility of legalizing coca production?

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[Sanchez de Lozada] Look, there is no doubt the coca leaf is not a drug. If you drink coffee and you extract the caffeine and refine it, it becomes a very powerful drug. Coffee is not a drug, however. This is why we are saying that people cannot say the coca leaf is a drug. It would be the same as saying that one is a caffeine addict. Even though some people are addicts, we are not very concerned about drinking coffee. On the other hand, however, there is no doubt that most of the production of coca leaves in Bolivia constitutes a surplus. If it were not for the drug demand, 15,000 hectares would be enough to meet traditional needs for the use of coca—traditions that date back thousands of years. Obviously, some 50,000 hectares are harvested, and most of the production is used for drug trafficking.

Bolivia has clearly explained that the coca leaf is a very traditional type of coca used for chewing. Although the coca leaf is not cocaine, many leaves are processed and made into drugs. The coca leaf is not illegal in Bolivia or in several other countries. We have thought that it is possible to market and export some products, such as coca mate and others, as is done with coffee.

Obviously, however, we see a justified reluctance to legalize this in Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador. The reason for this reluctance is that if this plant is grown anywhere else, it will be very difficult to control it. It is very difficult to control it where it is now allowed. This situation is included in the talks and we hope to reach consensus in our search for answers. We are constantly trying to find a solution to this problem.

[REFORMA] Drug trafficking is a very complex issue. It is penetrating government structures. Mexico, for instance, has recognized this fact. What about Bolivia?

[Sanchez de Lozada] I do not have a solution. This is why I am looking for a consensus and attending talks. We must consider that this is a very complex socioeconomic and political phenomenon. We have seen reports and information involving political classes in Bolivia, which is a small country that has a sound and social structure and little violence. Despite its poverty, it is a society in which families play a strong role within the community. However, at any time, we might find businesses, groups, soccer teams, and institutions that are being eroded by this scourge.

This is why we are very concerned. We are struggling because we are very vulnerable. I repeat: We are very concerned. Nevertheless, I believe people are becoming aware of and facing this problem. I do not have the answer, but the most important thing is to be aware of the problem.

[REFORMA] Is this where the drug trafficking summit is heading?

[Sanchez de Lozada] I believe this summit is very important, and we hope it will be held next year. It is not simply a matter of calling on one another, meeting, and discussing things. A drug trafficking summit must be followed by an intense working agenda that will lead to interesting proposals. Bolivia presided over the last summit in 1988, and we now need other achievements.

To Propose 'Free Hemispheric Market'

PY0512191794 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2252 GMT 3 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] La Paz, 3 Dec (EFE)—Bolivian President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada said today that during next week's "summit" of the Americas the Bolivian Government will "categorically" uphold a "maximum and radical" position in favor of establishing "a free hemispheric market."

Sanchez de Lozada doubted, however, that such a position "would please" Mexico, and added that Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, and Chile would not welcome it.

Sanchez de Lozada made this statement during a news conference he held in La Paz a few hours after his return from Mexico, where he attended President Ernesto Zedillo's inauguration, and on the eve of the "summit" of the Americas to be held 9-11 December in Miami.

Sanchez de Lozada said that the Bolivian Government wants the "summit" of the Americas to achieve "definite and specific" agreements on the implementation of "a hemispheric market."

Sanchez de Lozada complained: "We open up our markets, but big countries do not open up theirs." He insisted that "it is necessary for the hemispheric market to start operating."

The Bolivian president explained that during his visit to Mexico he discussed this issue with several chiefs of state and vice presidents. He particularly stressed his meeting with Ernesto Zedillo, with whom he specifically discussed the Bolivian-Mexican commercial agreement that will come into force as of January 1995.

Sanchez de Lozada said that he conveyed to President Zedillo the Bolivians' hope that Mexico "look toward Latin America, and not North America" after having joined the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and the United States.

Furthermore, he announced that Zedillo informed him that the Mexican Government wants to promote a UN-sponsored international meeting on narcotrafficking.

Sanchez de Lozada said that "the Mexicans, in their capacity as a transit country for narcotraffickers, are very concerned about this issue," and expressed the solidarity of Bolivia in their capacity as the second largest world producer of coca leaf. The first coca producer in the world is Peru. Coca leaf is the raw material used for the manufacturing of cocaine. Bolivia is also the second largest cocaine exporter, after Colombia.

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Sanchez de Lozada also discussed his meeting with Cuban President Fidel Castro. In a humorous tone, he said: "As you know, I always talk too much."

He said: "We have excellent ties with the Cuban Government, although our points of view are quite different." He added that it is "urgent" that Cuba "restore democracy and rejoin the Latin American family of nations."

Peasants Support 'Integral Development' Program

PY0612131894 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Dec 94

[Report by Mario Espinoza]

[FBIS Translated Text] The executive branch has announced that it has a new plan to develop the Chapare region. In view of the meager results from the alternative development program, it will now promote integral development.

According to Foreign Minister Antonio Aranibar, coca farmers have approved the new program and will help develop it. He added, however, that the Zero Option plan is still under study.

Coca Farmers leader, Evo Morales, has stated that there are several interesting ideas encompassed in this new development program.

[Begin recording] [Evo Morales] Our plan, the integral peasant development program, may be an alternative to the Zero Option program. If approved, the Zero Option program establishing our relocation from the Chapare region, the eradication of coca, and even the expropriation of our lands, will be eliminated. We do not support the Zero Option program, but this new program intends to achieve full development.

[Espinoza] Does this mean that the there has been an interesting change on the part of the executive branch?

[Morales] Yes, I believe there has been important progress made, and we believe consensus could be achieved on this issue in facing the international community. [end recording]

Despite the praise, Evo Morales stated that there could be some hidden facets involved in this new integral development program. At any rate, it has been reported that this new plan calls for the massive presence of the government in the Chapare region.

The integral development program is divided into two parts. The first calls for a diagnosis of the situation in the Cochabamba tropical region, and the second encompasses the implementation of development programs.

Coca Producers To Migrate to Tablas Monte

PY0612173794 Cochabamba LOS TIEMPOS in Spanish 29 Nov 94 p A8

[FBIS Translated Text] La Paz, 28 Nov (LOS TIEMPOS)—The General Trade Union Confederation of Peasant Workers of Bolivia (CSUTCB) and the National Social Defense Secretariat announced on 27 November that more than 1,000 coca producers from the Chapare region have expressed their desire to migrate to the "Tablas Monte" region of Carrasco province in Cochabamba Department, in exchange for government support for "alternative development plans, projects, and programs."

The "transmigration" plan was proposed by government officials to coca producers as "part of a strategy to voluntarily replace the surplus coca crops and to help the antinarcotics fight." The move comes at the initiative of the Association of Bolivian Colonizers. They want to exchange their land in Chapare for similar land in Tablas Monte "with the appropriate ownership titles."

LOS TIEMPOS had access to a report addressed to the government in La Paz, which was written by coca leaders from Chapare and Yungas. It says the project, which was initially for 600 families but then extended to 1,200, was unanimously welcomed by peasants who want to support "sustainable alternative development" on the new land "under a commitment to voluntarily reduce to 1,200 hectares the existing coca plantations."

Government officials have explained that the Tablas Monte area has excellent soil suitable for the cultivation of products other than coca. It is an unspoiled zone which, if the natural resources are kept intact, could be very suitable for the "transmigration and rural settlement" processes that have been proposed by national officials and received with great interest by coca producers.

The National Social Defense Secretariat report states that the peasant families that want to join the project are currently settled at the Isiboro Secure park. The report says the "transmigration" program could be extended to other zones.

The report explains that the program seeks to settle peasant families in "Tablas Monte" with all the required human and material resources needed to promote overall and sustainable development programs through the connection of the highway system with others for the social and economic benefit of producers who decide to join the plan.

The project will be implemented within two years and requires a financial budget estimated by the government and the coca producers at $3 million.

"The immediate benefits of the project for the peasant families who decide to join this project are: the provision of titled land, the consolidation of Tablas Monte as an alternative development zone, the establishment of a highly profitable and industrialized zone, and the provision of technical assistance for their new agricultural activities.

The government said the new rural and productive centers will have access to popular participation and

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capitalization programs and will create infrastructure, services, and other companies."

Plan for Developing Tropical Region Announced

PY0612232794 La Paz HOY in Spanish 29 Nov 94 p 8

[FBIS Translated Text] It was officially reported yesterday that the first phase of the Master Plan for the Overall Development of the Cochabamba Tropical Region will begin on 4 December with an investment of $63 million to replace coca in the shortest time possible.

The plan, which will be presented during a special ceremony to be held in Chimore of the Cochabamba tropical region, has the objective of setting the basis for regulating the conduct and practice of socioeconomic activities in the Cochabamba tropical region.

The plan was structured with the financial support of the German GTZ cooperation agency and includes an analysis of the Cochabamba tropical region; an overall development strategy for that subregion; and specific strategies in the institutional, economic, social, and environmental fields.

Officials of the National Fund for Alternative Development, Fonadal, said that the Alternative Development Program has made, in the eight years since its implementation, important progress in finding mechanisms for the peaceful replacement of coca.

In a news conference on 24 November, the Fonadal presented a summary of the projects carried out during the eight years since the Alternative Development Program was implemented.

Fonadal President Gaston Martinic, who described the projects carried out so far, said that the results are positive because a solid base on which future projects can be carried out has been established.

Martinic also said that the Fonadal basic policy is to replace coca with other profitable products in order to gradually reduce coca production for drug trafficking.

Martinic said, however, there is the certainty that the program must not be directed only for the replacement of coca because this measure alone would not be effective.

He added that development programs must also be implemented in the so-called "jobless zones" to prevent the people without work from moving to the coca producing zones.

Therefore, the Fonadal plan has two objectives: The replacement of coca in the regions where surplus coca is grown, and the provision of enough development infrastructure in the regions without work.

Carlos Bustos, director of the Alternative Rural Development Program (PDAR), said an overall development program is being carried out in the Chapare, Carrasco, and Tiraque regions for alternative cultivation of such items as pineapples and bananas, and that the markets for these products are also being ensured.

He explained that the markets for the alternative cultivation items of the Chapare are located mainly in northern Chile and Argentina.

He also said that the Alternative Development Programs are supported with the financing of the PL-480 and the U.S. AID, which have provided around $12 million.

Security Council Warns of Foreign Invasion

PY0512153694 Cochabamba LOS TIEMPOS in Spanish 26 Nov 94 p A4

[FBIS Translated Text] La Paz, 25 Nov (LOS TIEMPOS)—The Supreme National Security Council (Cosdena) on 24 November reiterated that the United States, with the support of the international community, could provoke a "military invasion of Bolivia" like the invasions of Panama and Haiti, if Bolivia "remains inactive" about the "drug trafficking" issue and does not restrict "the peaceful entry of foreigners" into Bolivian territory.

Division General Oscar Roca Mejia, permanent secretary of Cosdena, told journalists that "at this time, in a unipolar system, a power can do whatever it wants through international organizations and can take action at the sole suggestion of an economically and militarily powerful nation that feels its interests have been affected."

Roca minimized the opinions of other government officials, who labelled Cosdena's opinion about the risks to national security "exaggerated and overstated." He reiterated that "there is constant danger (for Bolivia), and facts should not be ignored, as they can present themselves in the future."

"When we talk about cocaine we are referring to the United States, as drug trafficking is essentially a U.S. problem," Roca said. He justified his remarks in making reference to recent experiences on the subject by "some South American powers," under the geopolitical principle that "either the rules issued by the powers are complied with, or foreign troops will immediately enter into action" to have them complied with.

"I wonder whether Bolivia is free from the situations that occurred in other countries," Roca said, adding that a state that is considered a "narco" state is watched by nations that are more powerful in the political and socioeconomic field (for example, the United States).

Anonymous Invaders

Even though he refused to identify the countries that might carry out the "alleged armed invasion of Bolivia," the military commander did not mention any particular state or states. [sentence as published] He justified his statement by saying that "no names can be given

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(because of my responsibility), and much less can I identify who or who might be" the eventual foreign invaders.

"The problem of drug trafficking has gone too far. I want to specifically say that coca is considered a typical product of the Americas, and notably of South America. However, the final product (cocaine) is taken to consumer centers that are not in Bolivia," Roca said, clearly alluding to the U.S. market.

"They (the United States) have to put some kind of a brake (on uncontrolled drug consumption) in U.S. society; the time has come for them to resolve the problem, and in this case, the famous saying that 'dead dogs don't bite' will apply," Roca emphasized.

Under such (geopolitical) premises, Roca reiterated that "I believe beyond all doubt that if the interests of developed countries are at stake, the zero option will be enforced," and this could mean a foreign military invasion of the country.

What Can be Done?

In light of this situation, Roca recommended that Bolivia design "responsible policies for the permanent safeguard of national security," which should not merely be government plans that generally depend on circumstances.

"I believe there should also be programs and policies that take into account the domestic and international situation," he added.

He said that President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada should summon Cosdena after the head of state is informed of the need to summon the Supreme National Security Council to discuss and analyze the subject and to adopt a position on it.

He emphasized that "the decision is in the hands of the president," noting that appropriate provisions for preservation of national security and sovereignty should be adopted at this level.

Chile

Frei Departs for Miami, 'Optimistic' on NAFTA

PY0712113094 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Eduardo Frei is leaving tonight for the United States, where he will attend the Miami summit. Frei was optimistic about the U.S. announcement of the start of official negotiations for Chile to join NAFTA.

After handing over the presidency to Interior Minister Carlos Figueroa, who became acting president in his capacity as vice president of the country, President Eduardo Frei stressed the importance of the Miami summit, through which the United States will be able to update its ties with Latin America and the Caribbean. During this summit the leaders of the region will broach subjects pertaining to trade, democracy, and social development, among others.

Asked about the refusal of CUT [United Labor Confederation] to accompany the official Chilean entourage to the Miami summit, President Frei said:

[Begin recording] [Frei] No comment.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, do you expect that during the summit the United States will announce Chile's joining NAFTA?

[Frei] Well, this is about the hundredth time I have been asked the same question in the past few days. We have to wait and see. You cannot anticipate events. If it happens, fine. If not, we will continue working.

[Reporter] Thank you.

[Frei] Thank you.

[Reporter] Are you optimistic [words indistinct] Mr. President?

[Frei] I am always optimistic. I believe we have made great progress. As I said last night, we will work hard to reach all agreements that are positive for Chile so as to achieve our country's full insertion into the international scenario. [end recording]

President Frei announced that he would hold bilateral negotiations with the presidents of Mexico, Brazil, and Bolivia. He denied, however, that the landlocked issue would be discussed with Bolivia.

Foreign Minister Jose Miguel Insulza also commented on the importance of the hemispheric summit, the first held in 27 years.

[Begin Insulza recording] Regarding trade and investment, among other things, we hope that the summit will achieve a good resolution on the opening up of trade at the hemispheric level. We believe this is a highly important objective that is much sought after by all Latin American countries, including Chile. [end recording]

The hemispheric summit will be held in Miami from 9 to 11 December. Before arriving in Miami, President Frei will be honored with an honoris causa degree from Boston University .

Colombia

Government To Stress Development at Summit

PA0712032894 Paris AFP in Spanish 0046 GMT 7 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 6 Dec (AFP)—A new cooperation concept must be the primary result of Summit of the Americas, which begins in Miami on Friday with the participation of 34 nations, Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Pardo said today.

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In this regard, the foreign minister said Colombia will advance proposals concerning areas considered to be of fundamental importance for regional development, such as the fight against drug trafficking, social issues, trade, and democracy.

During an informal conversation with the media, Pardo summarized the political process conducted by American governments for the past several months leading up to the summit convened by U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The foreign minister said Colombia hopes to have the continent's support for the proposal to be presented by President Ernesto Samper to establish an international convention against the laundering of illegal money.

Pardo said the discussion of trade issues at the summit should prompt a commitment to move toward creating an American Free Trade Zone within the near future, and that this should be initiated with the coordination of various groups currently operating in the region, including the Andean Pact, Mercosur [Common Market of the South], and the Community of Caribbean States, among others.

Likewise, he noted that strategies must be drafted to fight neoprotectionist mechanisms that are currently hurting the least developed countries.

In terms of social issues, the foreign minister said Colombia is proposing an alternative development model that already has the support of various nations of the continent and will be promoted at the summit with the hope that a commitment will be made to implement development programs in the fields of education, health, science, and environment.

Likewise, he said he hopes that in addition to this new cooperation concept, the meeting will help redefine relations among the countries of the hemisphere, as well as relations between the countries of America and the rest of the world, following the end of the Cold War.

As for ties between the United States and the rest of America, Pardo called for the drafting of "a policy with Latin America instead of a policy for Latin America" which would make the region's integration process clearer and more reliable.

He also said another important aspect of the summit should be the drafting of mechanisms to implement those programs agreed upon at the summit. Expounding on this, Pardo said these mechanisms should first be based on the work of governments; second, inter-American institutions, such as the OAS, Latin American Organization for Economic Development, Economic Commission for Latin America, and other organizations that need to be promoted; and last, nongovernment organizations which are now playing a role of special importance.

Samper To Seek 'Precise Timetable' at Summit

PA0712044294 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1820 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 6 Dec (DPA)—Foreign Relations Minister Rodrigo Pardo announced today that Colombian President Ernesto Samper will call for "a very precise timetable" at the Summit of the Americas for a free trade system to begin operating in the hemisphere. The summit is to take place in Miami from Friday to Sunday.

The minister stressed that trade will be the most important issue at the meeting of American leaders. He said it would be unthinkable for the region to lag behind other geographic blocs that have come together to facilitate exchanges of products and services.

Pardo said it is necessary for the Summit of the Americas to establish "a very precisely scheduled timetable in which to obtain free trade." It is also necessary for the presidents to discuss what he called the "ghosts of neoprotectionism," which are being applied by the more developed nations "disguised under principles such as environmental protection or human rights."

The top Colombian diplomat also reaffirmed his country's confidence in the approval of a proposal by President Samper, which calls for the countries of America to sign a convention against the laundering of money originating from crimes committed outside their national borders.

The initiative, the most important of the ones Colombia plans to present, seeks to lift banking secrecy measures. It also calls for a commitment from each leader attending the Miami summit to prevent banks operating in their countries from opening branches in the so- called "financial paradises" selected by criminals to "launder" their earnings.

The Colombian project, which experts from 18 countries drafted in Santa Fe de Bogota, seeks to prevent the "legitimizing" of profits from drug trafficking, toxic waste disposal, gun running, smuggling of human organs and chemicals, prostitution, illegal adoption, counterfeiting, and electronic fraud using credit cards, among other crimes.

When asked about the possibility of addressing the Cuban issue in the absence of Cuban President Fidel Castro, the minister said Miami "is not a good venue" for this. Castro's enemies are concentrated there, and the issue could not be addressed objectively.

Meanwhile, a government spokesmen said Samper also will use the trip to meet with his peers from the Group of Three (Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela), the Andean Group (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela), and with the Brazilian and Central American presidents to discuss the current coffee market situation.

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President Cited on Rural Cooperatives Proposal

PA0312021994 Santa Fe de Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 29 Nov 94 p A-5

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ernesto Samper Pizano said during the Coffee Conference yesterday the proposal presented by Defense Minister Fernando Botero on the rural cooperatives for private security are barely being assessed by the government and are part of an overall strategy for the security of the people that will be presented by the administration in the coming weeks.

When questioned by reporters if whether or not there are internal conflicts in the government or if there are two positions on the issue, he said:

"The given impression that there are two trends in the government is totally wrong. The government does not have a hard line and a soft line. The government has one same line of peace; it is decided and firm and is the one we have presented in Popayan. In it, there are various responsibilities around that line. It is so important for the government to maintain order that it could be the responsibility of the government minister or the defense minister on how to progress toward a political solution to the problem of violence or to develop the works of a social character that will allow us to legitimize all these peace measures the government is outlining."

Defense Minister Issues Communique

PA0312041394 Santa Fe de Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 29 Nov 94 p 5A

[FBIS Translated Text] The seven-point communique issued by Defense Minister Fernando Botero to explain the rural security cooperatives is summarized as follows:

1. The Defense Ministry's foremost goal is peace and harmony among all Colombians. The effort the government has been undertaking with regard to a peace policy has the unrestricted support of the Armed Forces and the National Police.

2. The government perceives with great concern the situation of violence and insecurity in the countryside. Kidnapping, extortion, murder, the collection of protection money and war taxes have unfortunately become everyday occurrences in the countryside and are prompting people to desert productive activities.

3. The government is totally and outright opposed to the self-defense groups, the groups of private justice, and the so-called paramilitary groups. These illegal organizations are responsible for terrible crimes, and they have contributed to the overall violence in the rural sector.

4. The proposals for the rural security cooperatives have full legal foundation in Decree 2535 of 1993 and of Decree 356 of 1994, and they are designed to respond to a desire for peace and security in the rural sector. These cooperatives have nothing to do with the self-defense groups, the groups of private justice, and the wrongly labelled paramilitary groups that the government firmly and unequivocally combats. These cooperatives seek, through imminently deterrent and defensive mechanisms, to guarantee security and peace for people living in the Colombian countryside.

5. These rural security cooperatives will be under the strictest control and the most intense monitoring from the Colombian state. Their operating permits will be granted by the Superintendency of Private Vigilance and Security, fulfilling all legal requirements. The permits must be renewed every year to enable periodic control of the activities being carried out. No person who has a police record or who has been involved in the activities of the self-defense groups or paramilitary groups can become a member of these cooperatives. The obtaining of weapons, which will be reviewed case by case, must comply with the strictest requirements of the law. Finally, civilian authorities, as well as military authorities, will also have responsibility in monitoring and supervising these rural security cooperatives. Given the above, it is evident that the control and supervision of these cooperatives will be intense, and this will prevent any type of excess or the carrying out of any type of activity outside the Constitution and the law.

6. The Defense Ministry has carried out an extensive study on this issue and intends to develop the program based on a pilot plan in five municipalities that are adversely affected by the various expressions of violence in our country. Based on the experience obtained in these five municipalities, the new program's benefits, advantages, and contributions, as well as its problems and deficiencies, will be known.

7. The Defense Ministry is granting utmost attention to the establishment of multiple preventive mechanisms from the legal and operational standpoints to ensure that these cooperatives do not depart from the strict guidelines of the law and the Constitution. The Defense Ministry will accept all observations constructively.

Defense Minister Defends Proposal

PA0312041094 Santa Fe de Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 29 Nov 94 p 5A

[Report by Carlos Murcia]

[FBIS Translated Text] Defense Minister Fernando Botero Zea fiercely defended the proposal to create rural security cooperatives, and he explained that the goal of the cooperatives is not to legalize the self-defense groups, as has been mistakenly claimed by some sectors.

In addition, he denied there are disagreements within the cabinet between the Defense Ministry and the Government Ministry on this issue; both are interested in peace and tranquillity for the Colombian people. He also said that between Horacio Serpa and himself there are no significant differences on matters of security and public order.

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The defense minister talked to EL ESPECTADOR on the controversy his proposal has engendered nationwide, and he also issued a communique detailing the official position. Botero said the rural cooperative system will be initially tested in one pilot municipality in Santander, and, if it is successful, it will be extended to four or five more, subsequently to a department, and finally to the whole nation.

When questioned on whether the government's goal was to create the right conditions to progressively achieve the legalization of the self-defense groups, the minister emphatically replied: No. He reiterated that the president is a staunch enemy of the self-defense groups, the paramilitary, and organizations of private justice. "He is combating them, he is pursuing them, and he hopes they will surrender to justice and comply with the law," Botero noted.

He added that there are no reasons to return to the conflict that arose a while ago because this administration's policy does not in any way endorse the slogan "Arm yourself if you can." Botero explained: "Why are we taking up this issue? It is because the situation in the countryside is critical. There are 400 kidnapped people in the hands of the guerrillas, and there are thousands of people paying war taxes, suffering from extortion, or paying protection money. Lands are being abandoned because of fear. There is an alarming situation of insecurity and violence in the countryside. Within this context, the government contends that a new institution known as Rural Security Cooperatives is feasible. This institution would be fully based on Decree 356 issued by the Gaviria Administration. These cooperatives would be closely monitored by the state, with permission to operate from the Superintendency of Private Vigilance and Security for one year, at the end of which the activities of each cooperative would be assessed to renew the permit. Strict controls would be applied in terms of the purchasing of weapons, which would meet all of the military industry's legal requirements. Emphasis would be placed not on the use of weapons, but on the use of communications equipment. The cooperatives' actions would be geared toward deterrence, and in no case would they be offensive in nature. They would be subjected to constant review by military and police authorities."

Botero said the proposal that originated from the president of the Republic had been distorted. He said the state is not declaring itself incapable of providing protection and security to Colombians, but instead it intends to use a mechanism that already exists in the cities in the form of private security companies.

In response to the government minister's criticism of his proposal, Botero briefly stated: "He was probably misinformed."

When asked whether the government minister's criticisms have continued, he replied: "I do not know, you can ask him. I still have not talked to Serpa."

Ecuador

Changes in Ministerial Posts Assessed

95SM0064C Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 8 Nov 94 p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] Quito—At a time when the Republican-Conservative administration is about to complete 27 months in office, a total of 16 citizens have been constrained to resign their posts as minister-secretaries of state.

Although three of the 16 ministers who left their posts in the cabinet are women, when President Duran-Ballen accepted their resignations he surprisingly did not appoint any women to fill the vacancies.

Although he did subsequently replace former Minister of Social Welfare Mariana Argudo with another woman, Monserrat Butina, the latter was in turn replaced by the Republican Alberto Cardenas, who currently holds that ministerial post.

Former Minister of Education Rosalia Arteaga was likewise replaced by the then under secretary Fausto Segovia, who currently serves as minister.

Resignations and Censure

During its 27 months in office, a gradual weakening of the government has become evident with regard to retention of its cabinet ministers, who have been forced to resign their posts because of situations of an internal character within the administration and, in other cases, for having been put on political trial and for having been censured and removed from their high offices.

A total of 16 citizens, including three women, for various reasons have had to resign their posts as ministers in the cabinet of President Duran-Ballen.

Twenty-Nine Ministers

Since 10 August 1992, Duran-Ballen has had a total of 29 ministers in his 14-minister cabinet, and the new public health minister has yet to be appointed.

Of the 14 ministries only those of National Defense, Housing, Labor, Public Works, and Agriculture are still headed by the same persons who took office on 10 August 1992: respectively, Jose Gallardo Roman, Francisco Albornoz Casares, Alfredo Corral Borrero, Pedro Lopez, and Mariano Gonzalez.

Meanwhile, various changes have taken place in the ministries of Finance, Industry, Energy, Foreign Relations, Public Health, Social Welfare, Tourism, and Education.

Of the 16 changes that have taken place in the various ministries, two were the result of political trials conducted by Congress, following which the defendants—former Foreign Relations Minister Diego Paredes and

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Energy and Mines Minister Acosta Coloma—were censured and removed from office.

Two other former ministers were also put on trial by the National Congress: Energy and Mines Minister Andres Barreiro—who was acquitted but was forced to resign from his high office—and Finance Minister Cesar Robalino Gonzaga, who resigned his post but failed to show up for his political trial, as a result of which Congress judged him to be in default and censured him.

In the meantime, Public Health Minister Patricio Abad submitted his resignation, which Duran-Ballen accepted; the vacancy remains unfilled, however. Abad is on political trial in Congress, where his appearance has been requested so that he can respond to the supposed irregularities committed in the exercise of his duties.

In the nine [as published] ministries where vacancies have occurred, the following is a list of those persons who currently serve as minister or formerly held that post and subsequently resigned:

In the Ministry of Government: Minister Marcelo Santos Vera (the current minister), and former Minister Roberto Dunn Barreiro.

In the Ministry of Finance: Minister Modesto Correa San Andres, and former ministers Mario Ribadeneira Traversari and Cesar Robalino.

In the Ministry of Energy: Minister of Energy Gustavo Galindo, and former ministers Andres Barreiro, Pablo Baquerizo, and Francisco Acosta Coloma.

In the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Integration, and Fisheries: Minister Jose Vicente Maldonado, and former ministers Mauricio Pinto and Jorge Garcia.

In the Ministry of Social Welfare: Minister Alberto Cardenas, and former ministers Mariana Argudo and Monserrat Butina.

In the Ministry of Education: Minister Fausto Segovia Bauz, and former ministers Eduardo Pena Trivinio and Rosalia Arteaga.

In the Ministry of Information and Tourism: Minister Armando Espinel Elizalde and former ministers Pedro Zambrano and Carlos Vera.

Lastly, in the Ministry of Public Health (which has remained vacant since the resignation of Patricio Abad): former minister Leonardo Viteri.

Police Commander Discusses Restructuring

95SM0064B Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 19 Nov 94 p 19

[Interview with Police Commander Miguel Rosero by unidentified reporter in Quito; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Quito—"We are involved in a full-fledged process of restructuring," Commander of Police Miguel Rosero Barba stated in an interview with the newspaper EL UNIVERSO. "Our institution has had to embark on its phase of modernization—a phase that was initiated under the previous commander. To support this process, we shall send Congress our proposals for reforming the organic laws that deal with personnel and the judicial function of the police. At the present time these laws are from 18 and 30 years old; they are completely outdated and have been studied by the General Staff of the Command Headquarters, which has taken charge of updating them. As soon as their revision is completed, they will be studied by the minister of government, who will then submit them to the Office of the President and ultimately to Congress." Here is the interview:

[EL UNIVERSO] What other projects do you have under consideration?

[Rosero] In addition, we want to leave the IESS [Ecuadoran Social Security Institute] and create our own social security program, in order to avoid a large number of problems. The corresponding bill—which will authorize the creation of ESPOLI [expansion unknown]—is now at the Ministry of Government for the appropriate review.

[EL UNIVERSO] How do you intend to carry out the modernization program?

[Rosero] We have drafted a plan for immediate action to develop our organization, in which we follow the plan developed by the previous commander, especially in the field of education. We have ratified an agreement with the Technical University of Loja. Police-related curricula are being created and are being utilized by officers and cadets. We are already involved in this process. The cadets began their first year under the so-called system of education at a distance. In addition to the cadets, we have a program in conjunction with Monsignor Leonidas Proano and the system of education at a distance, whereby rank-and-file personnel can also choose to study if they have not yet earned the bachelor's degree.

At the present time approximately 1,800 rank-and-file personnel who have opted to obtain the bachelor's degree are involved in this process, studying with instructors assigned to modules at various locations in the nation.

[EL UNIVERSO] On the subject of education, what happened in the case of the degrees that were falsified by officer candidates?

[Rosero] As soon as the falsification was detected, 135 members of the Police—men and women—were separated from the force at the various schools where these irregularities were discovered. The principal authorities of the Education Ministry are aware of the situation, and we have also placed the relevant documentation at the disposal of the Pichincha intendancy. We should emphasize in this connection that it was the police who detected this infraction. For this reason, all the police candidates

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who were discovered were dismissed immediately upon issuance of a legal order from the Superior Council.

We have conducted the investigation on the basis of the cases that we detected. If any accusation is brought against any organization, we would have to consider it and investigate it.

[EL UNIVERSO] What is the situation of the police in relation to the real needs of our society?

[Rosero] International police technique prescribes three police per 1,000 of the general population; in Ecuador, the ratio is one per 1,000. Under the development program approved by the national government, an increase of 7,000 personnel in the police force by 1996 has been authorized in view of the increasing levels of insecurity in the nation. This decision is already being implemented: we are using the media to invite those who wish to join our organization. In this way we hope to recruit some 800 citizens who want to enter this profession; they will enter on duty after taking an eight-month course scheduled to begin in March of next year.

A total of 143 policewomen were graduated recently and assigned to various locations in the nation: here in Quito, they were assigned to the Traffic Service, the Migration Office, and Interpol.

[EL UNIVERSO] One of the processes that have given rise to the most discussion among different sectors and officials in our country is the implementation of the plan to create the Judicial Police [PJ]. How is the plan progressing?

[Rosero] At the present time we are developing a new plan for organizing the PJ, because the previous plan was too comprehensive and under it the PJ had been assigned two different functions. Specifically, the Traffic Accident Investigation Service was going to be part of the PJ together with Interpol. Under the revised plan these two units would remain outside the PJ, which would otherwise have become too powerful an institution.

We are putting the finishing touches on the plan, and I have been meeting with the attorney general and public prosecutor to study the plan. As soon as the corresponding revisions have been made, I shall ask the president of the Supreme Court to call a meeting of the National Council of the Judicial Police.

The most decisive steps in this process have been taken in respect to qualification of personnel. To date, approximately 800 persons have been qualified upon completion of four courses given in Quito. With the completion of the this training, we have accomplished 80 percent of everything required to activate the PJ. With respect to infrastructure, they have given us space in the Ministry of Industries building for occupancy by the PJ. We are remodeling the offices in the interior of the building, and as soon as they are ready, all of the personnel who currently work in the center of the city will be moved there.

With respect to the creation of criminalistics laboratories, approximately 60 percent of the infrastructure is in place in Quito, and we have not yet completed implementation of the plan in Guayaquil and Cuenca.

The government hopes to complete implementation of the PJ plan before the end of its term in office.

[EL UNIVERSO] Despite the progress that has been made, there are many—including the members of the Superior Council of the PJ—who have criticized the delays in its implementation. Has this involved merely a change in name?

[Rosero] I can almost agree that the Judicial Police has merely undergone a name change. Because we want to be well equipped, we would especially like to construct laboratories, and for that purpose we are negotiating with the Embassy of France, with which we have concluded cooperation agreements for specific projects. At the present time we have three French advisers who for several years have advised us concerning changes in the rules governing the PJ. In addition, several officials have traveled to France for training in criminalistics and laboratory investigation, and training courses to qualify personnel are continuously given in cooperation with the governments of Argentina, Colombia, and Peru.

[EL UNIVERSO] Commander, what happened to the plan for creation of a National Police Air Arm?

[Rosero] That is a very old ambition. Although a number of officers have been trained as pilots in our country and in Chile and Colombia, this program has been halted for the moment because of the condition of the infrastructure and the economic deficit.

As an alternative we plan to ask the Ecuadoran Air Force, Army, or Navy to supply us with one or two helicopters that we will be able to maintain with funds allocated to maintain this service on a permanent basis. This will enable us to conduct operations and take measures in different fields such as bank robbery and control of the gangs of narcotics traffickers.

The Kidnapping Industry

[EL UNIVERSO] Every week at least one kidnapping is reported from some part of the country. Does it not appear that the police are not prepared to curb this new escalation?

[Rosero] It is true that there has been an alarming increase recently in kidnapping cases at the national level. Although some cases have been resolved and the victims located by the police, most cases are not resolved, because there is no communication between the kidnap victims and our organization. This is definitely an obstacle to our efforts to solve these crimes. Nonetheless, several cases reported to us were solved by

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our organization:, for example, the recent case in Ambato involving the kidnapping of a young girl was solved with the cooperation of her parents. It was discovered that the kidnapping was a hoax that she herself had planned with the help of her own sister.

To prevent kidnapping from becoming a more serious problem in our country, there must be more cooperation from the public—and not only from the relatives of the victims. Anyone who witnesses anything suspicious should report it to the radio patrol cars.

[EL UNIVERSO] How successful has the antikidnapping manual been?

[Rosero] We hope that this manual has been of some benefit to those persons who received it. We hope it has done some good.

[EL UNIVERSO] Where do most of the reports of kidnappings come from?

[Rosero] Mainly from Guayaquil, Lago Agrio, and Quito. The kidnappings in Ambato have let up somewhat for the moment. Precisely in order to give more attention to this problem, we have created an Antikidnapping Unit, which will operate on a nationwide scale.

Campaign Against Narcotics Traffic

[EL UNIVERSO] Another of the scourges that have grown worse in our country is the narcotics traffic. How are the police combating this evil?

[Rosero] We have intensified our control operations both within and outside Ecuador, in coordination with Interpol and the Ecuadoran Armed Forces. As we work, we constantly bear in mind that Ecuador has become a country for the transit and processing of cocaine.

An example of our efforts is the successful outcome of the Nortenito, Victoria, and Linda operations and—most recently—Operation Denmark, which established the existence of the narcotics traffic from Colombia to Quito and Denmark.

[EL UNIVERSO] With what countries are you coordinating your actions to combat the narcotics traffic?

[Rosero] In addition to Colombia and Peru, we are coordinating our actions with all countries that are members of Interpol. Because of the reported opening of the Colombian border for 24 hours a day, we have currently assigned priority to the control operations in Rumichaca, where we have worked during the past month using dogs and specialized personnel to check luggage that enters our country from Colombia.

[EL UNIVERSO] How much of your budget do you allocate to the police who are engaged in the antinarcotics effort, and what other agencies are supporting that effort?

[Rosero] The antinarcotics budget is being maintained at the same level as in previous years. We also receive support from the United States Embassy, which assists in qualifying personnel both within and outside our country.

We are also creating a canine center, which will be equipped to train drug-detecting dogs. We also received several vehicles that were donated to us; they have been assigned to the Intelligence Center.

Paramilitary Units in Cotopaxi Denounced

95SM0064A Quito HOY in Spanish 4 Nov 94 p 5A

[Unattributed article: "Paramilitary Predators"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Paramilitary gangs supported by the government are operating freely in Cotopaxi Province, where they are doing permanent damage and committing serious human rights violations.

These accusations were made by APRE [Ecuadoran Revolutionary Popular Action] Deputy Gustavo Larrea, who is a member of the Human Rights Committee of the National Congress. Larrea charges in his complaint that the gangs are recruited from the ranks of the National Police and enjoy the protection of the governor of the province.

According to the deputy, it has been confirmed that paramilitary gangs are operating in Moraspungo parish, Pangua canton, and have also been active in neighboring districts in Bolivar Province.

Complaints reaching the Human Rights Committee state that this gang is led by an individual named Baldondero Paes and operates as the "Committee for the Defense of the Farm Workers of Pangua Canton." They add that it enjoys the legal recognition of the government and is protected by the provincial authorities and in particular by the governor.

Deputy Gustavo Larrea says the paramilitary organization has been denounced by the National Police, which he says is "powerless" to curb the abuses, torture, burning of farms and homes, imprisonments, robberies, and other violations of human rights that have led to situations of open warfare with farm workers of Pangua in Cotopaxi Province and San Luis del Pambil in Bolivar Province.

The deputy also said that the public presence of more than 200 members of this gang—which carries large-caliber weapons and wears military-type uniforms—is a serious matter, and that the officials of the Ministry of Government are aware of the situation.

Nonetheless, Larrea said, the control measures necessary to keep the peace in these areas of the nation have not been taken.

Paraguay

Wasmosy Views Agenda for Summit of Americas

PY0612205594 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 6 Dec 94 p 32

[FBIS Translated Text] Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy voiced his hopes that the presidential

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summit in Miami will serve not only to discuss economic issues but also to establish straightforward policies to deal with social problems of American countries.

President Wasmosy announced on 5 December that the proposal, which Mercosur [Common Market of the South] countries will submit to the Miami Summit addresses the need for effective policies to fight corruption in public service, money laundering, and the drug trade.

Wasmosy called a news conference after midday on 5 December to report at length on the results of his trip to Japan and Mexico, and to give a detailed explanation of the 9-11 December Summit of the Americas, which he will attend with Foreign Minister Luis Maria Ramirez Boettner.

Concerning the Miami summit, he said: "We should not neglect the quest for effective policies to fight corruption in public servce, money laundering, and the drug trade, which plague our society to the point of jeopardizing the very foundations of democratic institutions." Wasmosy added: "This feeling is shared by all Latin American presidents. [no closing quotation marks as published]

Wasmosy displayed his interest in integration in the Americas by stating that the proposal of Mercosur countries will be to strengthen democratic administrations through integration based on transference of technology.

He advocated joint drug enforcement efforts, particularly by those countries, which are forced to farm coca because their agriculture is not sufficiently diversified. He said: "I am sure that the proposal of the Latin American presidents regarding the drug issue will undergo some changes, but I am not sure that Peru and Colombia will accept the U.S. proposal."

Wasmosy stressed that the summit in the United States will provide the opportunity to discuss concrete aspects aimed at merging the NAFTA and the Mercosur. He added, however, that he wants to discuss the needs of Latin American societies as well.

The president also reported that six Caribbean countries will ask the United States to reconsider their foreign debts, and explained that as far as he is concerned, Paraguay's position on the Cuban issue is that Fidel Castro should be "the one to lead his country toward democracy to prevent bloodshed."

Peru

Government To Make Anti-Drug Proposal at Miami Summit

PY0612172094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1528 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 6 Dec (EFE)—Peruvian Justice Minister Fernando Vega Santa Gadea today reported that during the upcoming Summit of the Americas, Peru will make a proposal for an overall struggle against narcotrafficking.

The Summit of the Americas summoned by U.S. President Bill Clinton will be held from 9 to 11 December in Miami.

In a statement to the government newspaper EL PERUANO, Vega Santa Gadea said that the plan that Peru will propose in Miami calls for classifying the various crimes related to narcotrafficking. He said that this must be the basis for a global strategy aimed at eradicating narcotrafficking from the Americas.

He added that the Peruvian proposal differs from that of the Colombian Government, which is based on the laundering of money derived from narcotrafficking, in that it establishes the promotion of alternative development programs to replace coca farms; the confiscation of properties; extradition; judicial and police cooperation; and the lifting of bank secrecy measures.

Vega Santa Gadea said: "This Peruvian Government proposal has already been submitted to the foreign ministries of the various countries that will attend the Miami summit, but of course we will listen to what other countries might propose in order to achieve a consensus on the issue."

The justice minister added that he believes the Peruvian proposal would be accepted by the other Latin American governments.

DATUM Poll Shows Fujimori Widening Election Lead

PY0612164294 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1547 GMT 5 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Lima, 5 Dec (EFE)—Peru's Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD] will on 6 December start to debate the National Election Board bill establishing restrictions on the campaign activities of President Alberto Fujimori, who is leading in the polls for the general elections scheduled for 9 April 1995.

According to a poll conducted by the DATUM private polling company disclosed on the evening of 4 December by a political television program, Fujimori received 55.8 percent support.

His most serious contenders, former UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Economist Alejandro Toledo, obtained 19.1 percent and 9.4 percent respectively.

The polls conducted last week gave Fujimori 50.1 percent support.

According to the DATUM poll, Mercedes Cabanillas, of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA),

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obtained 3.6 percent, while Lourdes Flores Nano, of the conservative Popular Christian Party, obtained 2.7 percent.

Moreover, Raul Diez Canseco, secretary general of the center rightist Popular Action Party, obtained 1.2 percent. The DATUM poll has placed Lima Mayor Ricardo Belmont, of the Obras Civic Movement, among those who were encompassed by the chapter entitled "others," that is, among the other nine candidates who jointly obtained 1.8 percent support from those polled. [passage omitted]

Election Process Solutions Discussed

95SM0061A Lima PERUPAZ in Spanish Oct 94 pp 6-7, 26

[Article by Cesar Landa Arroyo: "Juridicotechnical Problems and Outlines of a Solution: Next Election Process"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Giovanni Sartori: "The problem consists of the following: When do we see the demos act like a governing power or in the role of governor? The answer is simple: during elections."

The Peruvian election called to elect the president, vice presidents, and members of Parliament in 1995 will be governed by the 1993 Political Constitution, the laws on the subject that have been passed, such as the only complete version of Statutory Law No. 14250 and Constitutional Electoral Law No. 26337, passed by Resolution No. 043-94-JNE [National Election Board], as well as Law No. 26343 and Law No. 27334 amending Statutory Law No. 14250.

The electoral law framework has given rise to an irregular situation inasmuch as the JNE will take full responsibility for conducting the 1995 election, assuming some of the powers of the National Office for Election Processes (ONPE) and the National Identification and Marital Status Registry (RNIEC), under the Constitution responsible for some electoral functions. However, the CCD [Democratic Constituent Congress] has passed above-mentioned Law No. 26337, by virtue of which it interpreted the Constitution as arguably distinguishing between the operation of the ONPE and the RNIEC under the protection of the 11th Final and Temprary Provision of the Constitution, according to which "those provisions of the Constitution that may call for new or larger public expenditures will be applied gradually."

That is, the JNE is in part subject to the Constitution due to the fact that most of its present powers are based on legislative hierarchy. This is relevant, not because it may lead to nullity arising from elections—even more so since this law was passed by a "consensus" between the parliamentary majority and minority—but because it places the JNE in an unstable relationship with the Constitution and the very provisions of the election laws, not one of clear and transparent subordination of the JNE to the Constitution first and secondly to the laws.

The above-mentioned could mark the "supreme authority on electoral matters'" course of action with regard to the planning, organization, and execution of the 1995 election process without it being very clear which is the supreme regulatory limit: the Constitution or the CCD's election laws.

1. Election Problems

The vote is universal, that is, it is everyone's right, but the Constitution itself provides specific and generic exceptions: Specific when it disqualifies the police and the military from enjoying the right to vote and be elected. Generic when it provides that, in addition to a judicial decision prohibiting citizens from voting, their right to vote is suspended because of a prison sentence that deprives them of their political rights.

On the other hand, along with the right to vote is the right to be elected. In connection with this, there are certain regulatory restrictions on the right to vote. In addition, the election law provides impediments to running for the aforementioned offices, at present creating a constitutional problem with President Fujimori's wife Mrs. Susana Higushi's intended candidacy. This is because the election law provides that members of the president's family—related by blood in the fourth degree and by marriage in the second—cannot run for the presidency, just as they cannot run for the posts of vice president or member of Parliament either.

Obviously, confronted with a domineering, autocratic presidency, a ban on the reelection of the president and of his closest relatives—maintained in the 1933 and 1979 Constitutions—was guaranteed by the election law—Statutory Law No. 14250—which is today still in effect with some modifications and amendments. However, faced with the possibility of reelecting the president introduced by the current Constitution, the disqualification of members of the president's family is discriminatory and consequently in contradiction with what is provided by Article 2.2 of the Constitution. So, it is up to the JNE to assert its independence and autonomy as concerns elections under the Constitution.

On the other hand, it is undeniable that a lack of citizen participation was demonstrated in the last elections. For example, the absenteeism rate of about 40 percent for registered citizens for the referendum on the Constitution of 31 October 1993. The absenteeism is attributable to many reasons, among which structural and economic problems like the following may take precedence:

a. A civic motivation crisis in the political system and among its representatives, despite the universal suffrage right, due to a failure to continously practice the civic values of participation in elections.

b. A legitimacy crisis regarding the representative democracy system due to a lack of efficacy and transparency in the political actions of political organizations and their leaders.

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c. The displacement of 600,000 citizens eligible to vote—about 5 percent of the voting population—for reasons of political and economic violence, it being predictable that a considerable percentage of these dispaced persons are, in turn, without identity papers, that is, they do not have either a voter's registration certificate or a birth certificate.

Alternatives

a. Incorporate in the election law as one of the requirements for registering political organizations with the JNE Party Registry that the parties submit the outlines of a plan or program for governing that will enable citizens to officially know what the political alternatives that are up for debate are. It, in turn, could occupy the position of a document of supervision and control by civic public opinion over the actions of those who govern once elected.

b. Conduct civic awareness publicity campaigns for citizens and to inform them of their voting rights; the virtues of living in a democratic system should be demonstrated in which citizens as well as above all government authorities must submit to the powers delimited in the Constitution and the laws, which then makes it possible for them to be controlled by the people and also to be sued under the law in the event of their noncompliance.

c. Depending on the number of displaced persons, study the possibility of setting up "election boards for involuntarynonresidents" with guarantees that manipulation or election fraud will be avoided on said boards. Along these lines, nonresident voting rolls—integrated into the election computer network—could be set up in all the big cities in the country as early as three months before the election, thus eliminating the original voting rolls in order to then on the basis of the vote implement a system for subsequently at random checking on possible cases of double voting, which would result in an example-setting prison sentence.

2. Organization of Elections

While appropriate regulation of citizens' participation in elections in a representative national framework is very important, it does not absolutely guarantee the democratic nature of an election unless we have an updated National Election Registry (RNE). An example of this is the fact that the revision or updating of the voting rolls for the vote on the constitutional referendum of 1993 consisted of updating them only up to 1991. That is, we did not have a single 100-percent reliable voting roll.

The basic reasons why nonupdated voting rolls were used lie in the fact that:

a. The names of persons who are either deceased, prohibited [from voting], or in prison usually figure on voting rolls. Similarly, persons are registered as voters who no longer reside in a district due to the fact that citizens are not accustomed to having voluntary and involuntary—displaced persons and economic refugees—changes of residence entered in the election records of their districts, consequently appearing fictitiously on voting rolls that do not correspond to the actual situation.

b. There is a group of people who, although they ought to be registered, do not appear on the voting rolls; they are the so-called "people without identity papers," those persons who are listed in the election register; that is, those persons who do not have a voting certificate for reasons as diverse as the realities that exist in this country. For example: misleading information and a lack of public registry offices in rural—Amazon and Andean—areas, remote from the cities and small towns; not having a birth certificate, which is an indispensable requirement for obtaining a voting certificate; or a lack of motivation or mistrust on the part of people with regard to including themselves in the legal identification system.

Consequently, it is on the basis of this nonupdated, partial information that the district and province voting rolls are sent to the RNE so that it can make up the national voting roll, for which it has relied on the computer aid of the IBM Company of Peru in the last three elections. This company assumes responsibility for compiling the voting rolls, grouping those listed in a registry book, consisting of a maximum of 200 citizens, into an election board.

Of course, once these voting rolls are compiled, there is no subsequent check on or verification of them, not only for the possible updating of names listed on them that should be handled through the province voting rolls, but also for probable inconsistencies or errors in the computerized composition of the rolls that were uncovered during the last vote, with the subsequent transmission of the voting rolls in question from one election district to another.

Alternatives

a. The JNE and the RNE ought to coordinate those operations that enable them to come up with an updated voting roll, specifying the provisions that will facilitate procurement of a voting certificate as well as standardizing the registration of displaced persons andmigrants, including them in the voting roll for their residential district.

b. The voting rolls should be prepared and printed in a decentralized manner through the province rolls as delegated by the RNE, relying for this purpose on the appropriate expert advice and the computing system (earmarked for the vote count on the provincial boards) as delegated by the RNE. The RNE would be the national agency responsible for supervising the preparation of the voting rolls, having direct access to registration data through a computerized network.

c. Promote a civic information and education campaign so that people will register on the voting rolls and obtain

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their birth certificates beforehand, as well as making civil servants responsible for issuing said documents aware of their importance and improving their ethical standards. Likewise, permanent coordinating agencies should be established between the RNE system and authorities of the health, national police, and municipality sectors so that the voting rolls in question are periodically provided with information from the reports, certificates, and death certificates that their agencies issue for the purpose of periodically updating the voting rolls and requiring that the voting certificates of deceased persons who are registered be turned in.

d. In a timely manner train personnel of the provincial election boards and especially members of the local election boards in voting law and procedures; this should be done far in advance of the way it is usually done. Likewise, students in their final years of university study should be encouraged to participate in their civic responsibilities in order to train members of the local and provincial election boards by establishing compensatory credit systems or considering the time they spend providing aid as electoral trainers to be the equivalent of twice the amount of time they have to spend in the Civil Service for Imminent Graduates (SESIGRA).

Evolution and Result of Elections

The election process is concretely expressed in voters' votes, the timely resolution of problems in applying eleciton rules, procurement of the results, and proclamation of the candidates who are elected. All of which presupposes that the unfolding and winding up of elections are in keeping with the principle of transparency of the will of the people.

However, this principle of transparency of the will of the people has been indirectly disputed because of a number of difficulties that have been evident in immediately preceding elections on the part of both the candidates and the media as well as the pollsters. An ethically indiscriminate use of economic resources or traffic in influence—public and private—is evident in election publicity campaigns as well as the creation of public opinion through the media in exclusive association with certain pollsters.

The efficiency of the election process has also been questioned by the JNE because of the delay in making election decisions in both the preelection and postelection phases, which has given rise to a situation in which the private powers mentioned in the preceding paragraph set themselves up as quasi-official spokesmen for election results in particular, but without the guarantee of independence and protection of the public interest which only the state can ensure through the JNE.

Some of the reasons for this process of privatization lie in the fact that:

a. Over the past decade the polling companies have been appearing inthe media as organizations technically authorized to gauge whom citizens want to vote for, without considering the fact that their projections have not agreed with election results and, what is more, they often also manipulate how people want to vote in a population with a low level of education and of identity with elections.

b. The members of the election boards, above all the local boards, are not trained in election law, nor are they trained in election procedures. Furthermore, they directly and in centralized fashion assume responsibilities for administrative and managerial matters such as those involving supply, computer operation, streamlining operations, graphics design, publicity, etc. which involve skills alien to their training or professional experience as, basically, judges or lawyers.

c. The contentious election processes, full of challenges, flaws, nullities—in both the preelection phase of registration of parties, political organizations, candidacies, symbols, etc. and the postelection phase of compilation of election results are handled in a cumbersome way—as if it were a trial—which enables many official representatives to attempt to manipulate the vote count or invalidate elections under a state of emergency in which election officials are left without guidance by election authorities and find themselves practically under the security and logistic protection of the Armed Forces.

d. Shortcomings in simultaneously or sequentially tackling the installation of voting boards, with the acquisition of buildings, property, services, and the precautions for the installation of the computation systems. As well too as the lack of timely coordination in assigning locations for voting boards and in their appropriate implementation with the corresponding election materials.

e. Shortages in managing to cover 100 percent of the cost of mailing election materials and problems in retrieving election results from some of the country's outlying areas due to the lack of subordination of Armed Forces flight plans to plans for the distribution and recovery of election materials, which the JNE is responsible for.

Alternatives

a. Train members of election boards in substantive and procedural election law as well as in election methods. Administrative simplification and the resolution of election disputes based on executive procedural principles, with the election authority having the power—as well as the responsibility—to summarily resolve them, thus guaranteeing both voters and candidates' rights.

b. The JNE ought to be the guiding agency of a system of election planning, creating for that purpose a specialized organization charged with managing the technical details of elections as concerns the design, execution, and supervision of plans and programs for composing, mailing, and folding up election materials and for election results.

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c. The JNE ought to draw up an informative register of companies specializing in conducting public opinion polls for elections in which the data that make up each poll: the scope of the poll, all the questions asked and the replies obtained, and the names of those who request and finance them, are periodically recorded.

Shining Path Kills Police Agent Who Infiltrated Group

PY0612142694 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1937 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 5 Dec (EFE)—It was reported today that a member of the National Counterrorism Directorate [DINCOTE] who had been able to infiltrate the Shining Path [SL] group and had assisted in the arrest of important subversive leaders was assassinated by subversives when they discovered his activities.

The DINCOTE agent, identified as Carlos Peralta, 27, supplied the information that led to the arrest of one of the top-ranking Shining Path chiefs, Edmundo Cox Beuzeville; and a few days ago to the arrest of Elizabeth Gonzalez Otoya, who currently ranks fifth in the Shining Path leadership.

According to today's press reports, Carlos Peralta was killed at dawn on 28 November in the district of San Martin de Porres in Lima.

One of the reports state that the terrorists broke into the policeman's house and shot him. Another report states that the policeman was intercepted on the street and shot dead by six persons in two vehicles.

To infiltrate the terrorist gang, Peralta feigned to be a relative of one of the terrorists killed in a massacre that occurred in a jail in June 1986.

Captured Terrorist Leader Says Guzman 'Murdered His Wife'

PY0612120294 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1836 GMT 3 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 3 Dec (EFE)—The imprisoned main leader of the Maoist Shining Path [SL] group, Abimael Guzman, murdered his wife Augusta La Torre with the help of his lover Elena Iparraguirre, according to confessions by a female SL leader arrested recently.

These confessions were made by Elizabeth Gonzales Otoya, who is considered a member of the SL high command, after she was arrested in Lima and being interrogated by the anti-terrorist police. Her statements were published by the Lima daily ONDA today.

This revelation was made precisely as Guzman celebrates his 60th birthday today, in an underground cell at the naval base in the neighboring port of Callao.

This information was also disclosed today by a local television station, which showed a video sent by the SL metropolitan committee referring to the "need" to reach a peace agreement, as proposed by Guzman last year to Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori.

The daily states that the founder and mastermind of the SL and his lover, Elena Iparraguirre, also a SL leader, both of whom were captured on 12 September 1992 and sentenced to life imprisonment, poisoned Augusta La Torre, aka "Comrade Nora," because they believed she "was an obstacle to their love affair."

The report then states that in addition to the love angle, La Torre was also murdered by Guzman because she had become a threat within the organization, as she was willing to disclose "the corruption and distortion of the plans" of the SL founders.

Elizabeth Gonzales—considered to be one of the closest aides to current SL leader Oscar Ramirez Durand, aka "Feliciano," who has rejected Guzman's peace proposal and continues to perpetrate acts of violence—appeared next to the imprisoned leader in the video seized by the police in 1991 in which Guzman dances "Zorba the Greek."

According to Gonzales' statement, most of the SL leaders who attended Augusta La Torre's wake—which also appears on the video, and at which Guzman looks heartbroken and in tears—knew he had murdered his wife.

The report also states that La Torre's poisoning took place during a meeting held by the SL high command at a hideout in the residential neighborhood of Monterrico in Lima, where Guzman used to go in 1989 and 1990.

According to Gonzales, the wake and expressions of sorrow were part of a maneuver by Abimael Guzman to pretend the "great love" he felt for his wife, and to avoid a division within the organization.

The daily also states that the anti-terrorist police have formed a special group designed to find Augusta La Torre's grave.

Moreover, on 30 November and 2 December three terrorist attacks were perpetrated near Lima. One of them resulted in the destruction of a high tension pylon, while the other two were attempted bomb attacks against the National Police station in Pachacamac, south of this city.

The attack on the police station was thwarted by the police, and the bomb was detonated without causing any damage in an open field, where it had been abandoned by the terrorists.

In the video shown yesterday, the SL members, who appear hooded, made an appeal for the "need to struggle and fight for a peace agreement that will end violence in the country."

They asked President Alberto Fujimori's administration to allow Abimael Guzman to publicly address the

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country in order to end the armed struggle and remove "any doubts and misunderstandings that prevail within a sector of the party."

Red Path Subversive Activities Evaluated

PY0212181794 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 20 Nov 94 p A30

[Article by C.R.]

[FBIS Translated Text] During the past 30 days, the Red Path has tried to create power vacuums in northern Peru but has been repelled by the people. On repeated occasions the Red Path members ambushed Army patrols in the Huallaga region, which resulted in some 50 casualties among the subversives. However, they also perpetrated seven selected murders; one of the victims was a policeman.

Intelligence reports state that the weapons, ammunition, and communications equipment used by Red Path members are supplied by the drug trafficking "firm" that belongs to Waldo Vargas, aka "El Ministro," who currently heads the most powerful drug ring in the country.

However, Vargas is not the only one who supports the current Red Path leader Oscar Alberto Ramirez Durand, aka "Feliciano," and his supporters.

It is estimated that of the 50 "firms" that operate on the edge of the jungle, at least 15 are in direct contact with Feliciano's envoys.

As a result of the actions perpetrated by the 4th Army Infantry Division, which carries out military and psychological operations, there are only a few dispersed subversive groups left in Puno.

In Lima, the so-called Left-Wing Annihilation Faction [Linea Liquidacionista de Izquierda, LLI], headed by Ramirez Durand, during that same period destroyed high-tension pylons in Matucana, Puente Piedra, and Pachacamac. It also carried out a profuse agitation campaign and infiltrated the rallies organized by some labor union organizations.

Analysts believe that through these actions the Red Path seeks to capture the attention of the people and the recognition of "Feliciano" as the only leader of subversion.

The actions were prepared by the subversive leaders during a meeting held last August.

These leaders, however, did not take into account the reaction of the members of the so-called "New Red Faction," who recognize Abimael Guzman Reinoso as their only leader.

The new faction members carried out massive propaganda through bulletins and writing on walls rejecting "Feliciano" and making announcements defending Guzman's call for peace.

The Guzman supporters labeled the obstinate Feliciano followers the "Little Black Group" who use drug trafficking money for their "pseudo-military actions."

With this purpose, the Guzman supporters carried out mobilizations in the Huaycan, Raucana, Bocanegra, Moron, and other settlements.

In the northern region, the Red Path tried to create power vacuums through intimidation. It carried out 10 attacks that led to the murder of three individuals, one policeman among them.

Last month, there were almost no activities by Red Path; there were no actions that entailed a social cost.

This group exploded a bomb in front of the Huamachuco municipality in Sanchez Carrion Province, La Libertad Department.

This group also murdered a municipal councilman and blew up the house of a tax official in Curgos, Sanchez Carrion Province. The group then raised a red flag with a hammer and sickle and threatened people with machine guns and grenades.

The same subversive group went to Marcabalito and murdered the mayor after he was taken out of his house and tortured. The group also fired at the house of a councilman, who was not at home, and then fled.

The group, made up of about 20 subversives, also went to the El Cafe, Jaen, and Cajamarca settlements looking for a local official to murder him, but as he was not found, the group left.

Then the group held a meeting at the Huallapampa settlement. The subversives took the women and children from their homes at gunpoint. They called for an "armed strike" that no one obeyed. Members of the peasant defense patrols drove the subversives out, but on their way out, a policeman who arrived in a truck was murdered.

In Huarmaca, Piura, another terrorist group set a truck on fire and distributed bulletins calling for an "armed strike" that was not obeyed by the population.

In the southern region, especially in Puno, where only one year ago the Red Path still had a relative presence, there are now only a few dispersed groups left who obey "Feliciano." The armed actions of the Red Path are decreasing gradually.

The military actions of the 4th Army Infantry Division have greatly affected the terrorists, who, after beginning the psychological operations plan, were not able to get the support of a single peasant.

Until early 1993 many youths were enlisted in the subversive groups and were forced to carry out attacks and commit murder in their own communities. The deteriorated small groups were, however, able to carry

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out sabotage in Colquemarca. Military strategists labeled that attack a desperate action.

In Ayacucho, Apurimac, and Huancavelica, which were the bastions of subversion a few years ago, the Red Path is only present in the rural area of Huanta, and in the jungle regions of Ene and Chonta. Based on information provided by peasants, there is reportedly a group armed with modern automatic rifles in Santa Ines and Castrovirreina that moves around the settlements and is headed, according to the description given, by "El Manco."

"El Manco" headed the "Red Sea" group, which has disappeared; it was destroyed after the successful Aries operation, which eradicated narcoterrorism from the districts of Crespo, Castillo, and Rupa Rupa, Leoncio Prado Province, Huanuco Department.

In Ayacucho, the Red Path has taken refuge in the wild regions of Huanta, from where it goes to the Ene valley to contact drug trafficking "firms."

Its situation is becoming more difficult because of the movement of the antisubversive military forces.

The terrorist groups that in the past created terror in the Mantaro region have also disappeared. They have taken refuge in Satipo and Gran Pajonal in the face of Army persecution.

In the Huallaga region, the terrorists carried out seven attacks, causing four casualties.

This time the terrorists murdered the governor of Huamancoto, Leoncio Prado Province, Huanuco Department, when moving around the Pumachuas road.

Intelligence analysts believe the victims were people who refused to cooperate with the agents of "Feliciano," who seek to regain influence.

Expert Says Shining Path 'In Hibernation'

95SM0061B Lima DEBATE in Spanish Sep-Oct 94 pp 14-16

[Article by sociologist and CEPEI investigator Enrique Obando: "End of Sendero"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Abimael Guzman was captured on 12 September 1992. Now, two years later, many things have changed and Peruvians are asking—beyond the self-congratulatory speeches—about the fate of the Shining Path. DEBATE has asked Enrique Obando, an expert on political issues, for an analysis of what has happened since his capture and the letters of surrender and of the future that augurs for what is left of the Shining Path.

It is now some time since the Shining Path was displaced from being the central concern of the press and the public in general to appear only sporadically as a result of some more or less isolated attack. This leads us to ask ourselves about the real situation the Shining Path is in today. Has it really been defeated? Will it end up disappearing and with it all the consequences of the terror of the past 14 years?

With respect to these questions, nothing conclusive can be said. Any assertion always has to be conditional, noting that much of it is speculative. However, there are two things about which there can be no doubt: The Shining Path has been strategically defeated and the tendency is for it to disappear.

Division and Peace Accord

Shining Path's final chapter, what we might describe as its rout, began right after Guzman wrote the letters to President Fujimori. These letters were very effective instruments for the dismantling of the Shining Path machine and in convincing its militants to call a halt to the struggle.

The first letter, which Fujimori made public on 1 October 1993, asked for talks relating to a peace accord; the second, of 9 October of the same year, not only repeated the request, but also praised the Fujimori government. The third, presented on 29 October, was signed not only by Guzman and Elena Iparraguirre, but also by Osman Morote, Martha Huatay, Maria Pantoja, and Rosa Angelica Salas. The objective was to demonstrate that the Shining Path leadership shared Abimael's decision. Moreover, there was a letter dated 22 September which the government did not publicize. Fujimori revealed its existence, noting that it had not been disseminated because it did not contribute to the general objective of pacification. In this way he generated hope for the latter and it was the Shining Path that took it upon itself to circulate the letter together with a paper by Guzman himself entitled "To Fight for a Peace Accord and Establish the Bases for the Second Congress." This paper was Guzman's ideological justification for convincing his successors of the need for a peace accord. In it he recognized the problems the organization was experiencing and pointed out that it was necessary to wait for the second wave of revolution since the international situation was not favorable and that the problem of the leadership of the organization could not be resolvedsoon. He reminded them of the plans for a prolonged war and said that he was proposing the peace accord not as an act of surrender, but rather as a condition for being able to go on with the struggle. This justified Guzman in the eyes of his militants, maintained consistency with all of their earlier line of thinking, and conferred legitimacy on the cessation of hostilities. Starting with the appearance of the second letter, the government took the Shining Path leaders through the prisons to convince the Senderistas of the need for peace and some of the prisoners were also apparently released to convince the Senderistas, led by Oscar Ramirez Durand, "Feliciano."

Outside of prison, the Shining Path was split into two factions: those who supported Guzman's peace accord and those who opposed it and accepted Feliciano's

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leadership. But, aside from these two factions, many Senderistas took advantage of the confusion to disappear from the scene and formally break off relations with the two Shining Paths. Many of them simply flatly abandoned the adventure. At one point it appears that the Senderists of the Guzman faction collaborated with the police in informing against the members of the Feliciano faction.

Combined with the Repentance Law and a certain measure of collaboration by the Guzman faction, the letters notably reduced the number of Shining Path actions. In the 10 months prior to the first letter, the average number of attacks was 101 and the number of victims 113; in the 10 months following the first letter, their average numbers were 34 attacks and 33 victims: a reduction of 67 percent in the former case and 71 percent in the latter.

While the letters have been an effective weapon for dealing the Shining Path the death blow, the question is: Why did Guzman lend himself to this maneuver?

Guzman's Possible Reasoning

There has been speculation about possible negotiations between the government and Guzman through which a sort of cease-fire would have been agreed to for a certain number of years—which would guarantee the Shining Path's survival. The latest evidence leads us to doubt this hypothesis. The Armed Forces and the national police are in a position to finish off the Shining Path without resorting to negotiations. Likewise, Fujimori would not be prepared to go down in history as the negotiator of a spurious accord. On the other hand, it would be difficult for the Armed Forces to agree to negotiations of this nature. And lastly, President Fujimori has recently adopted a tough stance toward the Shining Path's attempt to reach a peace accord and, despite all the cooperation displayed by Guzman, he has decided to have done with the problem once and for all by putting an end to the Repentance Law (1 November) and, in so doing, force those subversives who are at liberty to surrender themselves in a short period of time or face what Fujimori calls the "war law." The latest Shining Path attacks are probably more an attempt to pressure the government into resuming the interrupted dialogue. The dialogue was a tool of the government's to get Guzman to collaborate in the destruction of his own organization. Once that objective was achieved, the dialogue in question was cut short. Since it was obvious that this is what would happen, what could Guzman's reasoning have been?

We must realize that Guzman is neither a fighter nor a soldier; he is an intellectual. Therefore his decisions are dictated by working things out logically, even though the premises are often false or are based on a different kind of reasoning. After some time in prison, Guzman probably realized that if the Shining Path were to go on with the war it would in the end fall, defeated, and its cadres would be captured or dead. Thinking along these lines, Guzman would gamble on saving part of the organization so that it might form the embryo of a future Shining Path. Feliciano's action in continuing the war—oddly enough, following the orders given him by Guzman himself after their talk in his cell when he had not yet been able to evaluate the consequences of his capture—led to the total destruction of the organization through senseless attacks. Guzman tried to restrain him to keep them from continuing the war and thus regain control of the organization that Feliciano was fighting with him over.

To achieve this, he would collaborate with the government against Feliciano: "We give up a present of uncertain possibilities for a future of certain and real prospects," he notes in the paper that accompanies the September letter. In doing this, he probably has a maximal objective and a minimal one. The maximal one: to obtain from the government the release of the largest possible number of cadres with the signing of a peace accord. The minimal one: to protect those militants still at liberty and those whom the police have not yet identified.

To stop the war in order to save the organization, Guzman had to destroy Feliciano, who insists on continuing the war. On this last point, he has had a certain amount of success. If Feliciano continues the war, his faction will probably be destroyed by the police and Guzman has succeeded in getting the majority of the organization to cease their actions and go into an underground phase. He also probably succeeded in placing a fervent defender of the peace accord, Simon Limaco Hayascachi, as Feliciano's number-two man who, apparently on being discovered by Feliciano's people, turned himself in to the police. What Guzman has not achieved is the maximal objective of the peace accord.

Things being the way they are, it appears that both the government and Guzman mutually made use of each other. The government in a short amount of time achieved—thanks to Guzman—what it had taken years to do: put most of the Shining Path forces out of action. And Guzman will probably achieve his minimal objective: the survival of a group that will be the embryo of the future Shining Path.

Can Shining Path Come Back Again?

Why is it so important for Guzman to save his cadres? Because the cadres are the bearers of Gonzalo's thinking. Since he is in prison, the survival of his ideology will only be possible if militants indoctrinated and fanaticized in his thinking survive.

To date Guzman's people can be found in different parts of the country. In Lima they are found in Ate-Vitarte, El Agustino, Jose Carlos Mariategui, and other places. It will be very hard to capture these people since they cannot be identified and they are not known to have participated in subversive acts nor are they likely to commit them in the immediate future. It is the Shining

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Path in hibernation. As in Lima, in the rest of the country those Senderistas who do not side with Feliciano have also gone into hibernation. They can be found in certain areas of Apurimac and El Huallaga, in Junin Forest, in El Callejon de Conchucos, and in some areas of Ayacucho. The collaboration with the government to defeat Feliciano will probably enable some of Guzman's cadres to get out of prison, thus achieving a parallel objective: to unite Guzman's Senderistas about a minimal organization.

When the government attacks, both Guzman's and Feliciano's Senderistas will be killed or captured since apparently no pact with the government has been concluded, but Abimael is betting that a sufficient number of Senderistas will survive for the future.

Is this possible? From my point of view, it is a gamble without a future because what Guzman has forgotten is the people. He is playingwith elites. He proposes "to develop the struggle between two lines, betting on uniting, fighting because fleeing in disorder may be the least feasible [alternative]; the organization is politically strong, but it is prepared for only a few of us to be left; we will be the most sorely tested...."

What does not figure in Guzman's plans is the fact that the people have rejected the Shining Path. People know about its fanaticism and its terror. It will be rather difficult for the Shining Path proposal to take hold again among part of the population. If the Shining Path makes a comeback, it will only exist as a terrorist movement without the support of the masses. And, although terrorism may do a lot of damage for a while, in the long run it always ends up being put out of action. On the other hand, we must not forget that the Shining Path grew during the 1980s because of the blindness and weakness of the governments of the time. There is today little likelihood that such a situation will repeat itself.

Growing Nonviolent Movement Discussed

95SM0060B Lima LA REPUBLICA (DOMINGO Supplement) in Spanish 30 Oct 94 pp 6-8

[Interview with sociologist Manuel Piqueras by Mirko Lauer; place and date not given: "Militant Pacifism"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In Peru a broad movement with a central nucleus of nonviolent activists is developing from the bottom up, in the style of Gandhi and of Martin Luther King. This is predicted by Manuel Piqueras, a social researcher, in this interview. He states: "This Goliath which is now in the government has to be defeated by the active, nonviolent mobilization of the Peruvian people."

[Lauer] For a long time it has been said—and it was a commonplace—that the Peruvian people were very peaceful. Then, all of a sudden, violence broke out. Have the Peruvian people turned violent during the past few decades?

[Piqueras] What has happened in Peru is a kind of multiple crisis. It is an economic, political, cultural, and spiritual crisis. And in this multiple crisis, which furthermore originated at different times, there are aspects of long and medium duration.

[Lauer] Such as?

[Piqueras] For example, there is what I would call "the four great disasters." On the one hand there is enormous poverty, which now is massive. About 70 percent of the people of Peru live under these conditions. This is a deep scar on the face of the country and a great cause of violence. A second disaster is the problem of the neglect of the provinces, due to the centralization of the government. It is impressive! A couple who migrate from Huancavelica, Ayacucho, or Apurimac to Lima add to their life expectancy, and infant mortality drops from 170 down to 50 per thousand births. The third cause of violence is the inequality of whole categories of people. This is a patriarchal culture which is male dominated, and it leaves a scar. (Women are victims but are also the bearers of liberation.) And the fourth disaster is racism. Our country has no racist laws but is immensely more racist, for example, than North American society. Those four characteristics are like four great scars, four great causes of damage, four social sins.

[Lauer] During these last few decades those scars condemned us to undemocratic ways of carrying on political life. They have led to armed violence and to military coups d'etat. What form of political behavior would be effective and adequate for the solution of these problems?

[Piqueras] Among the Peruvian people, just as there are powerful authoritarian and antidemocratic groups, there are also powerful democratic groups. Basically, the antidemocratic groups have been mobilized by their leaders. Not far from us now, the present administration is a major mobilization of the most psychopathic, authoritarian, and unhealthy groups in our society. This is an administration which ends up by dividing all Peruvians, fragmenting them and causing all of these groups to clash with each other.

[Lauer] I agree. And what are the democratic ideas in the consciousness of the Peruvian people? For a long time it was thought that the Andean foundation of agrarian collectivism, such as the "ayllu" [unit of society], or the institutional and communitarian vocation of society, was a kind of matrix of democratic thought.

[Piqueras] I believe that this Andean component, which is the central axis of our formation as a country, is also made up of profoundly authoritarian and profoundly democratic fringe groups. It all depends on the leadership, which can mobilize the most psychopathic, authoritarian, and brutal aspects of society. And in this context I am not speaking only of the president but even of the leaders of the ordinary people, the whole leadership of the country, as well as more democratic and healthier fringe groups.

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[Lauer] Nevertheless, we see that this factor has wavered, has seemed to hesitate or to doubt, has been fragile and has demonstrated that that it is not a wall of opposition to the authoritarian element which we bear on our dark side as a society.

[Piqueras] Specifically, for example, when we speak of the four great scars, have there not been important movements, although not yet exactly massive in national terms, in the struggle against poverty? Have there not been important movements in the struggle against centralism? Have there not been movements in the struggle to counter discrimination against women? Have there never been movements which also advocated a democratic mixing process, a kind of democratic integration of all ethnic groups which is antiracist in character?

[Lauer] And why have these movements not succeeded in settling down into great, democratic political parties? Why have they not succeeded in moving in one way or another from the stage of social movements into becoming political parties in Peru?

[Piqueras] As I understand it, that is the central component of the crisis of the political parties. The political parties express very strongly these antidemocratic components. They have been responsible, to a large degree, for the continued existence of poverty, centralism, discrimination against women, and racism.

[Lauer] Well, but do you not think that there is also a certain amount of complicity on the part of the victims in the circumstances in which they find themselves?

[Piqueras] Yes, I think so. We have internalized all of these great wrongs and scars within ourselves. For example, I feel that I belong to a major, democratic aspect of this country. However, I am not unaware of the fact, nor have I lost my understanding that these great scars are present within us.

[Lauer] In fact, you are expressing to some extent your opposition to the politics of ideology, as we know it now, and which Cooper once called "the politics of experience." That is, the politics of the social experiences of people. In that sense, what do you think that the majority of the people are burdened with? What ideas can you detect which are not like these or linked to these scars? In a way, during the 1960's, we used to think that Peru had within itself a great amount of democratic and popular experience. The political Right in Peru thought for a time, particularly during the 1970's and 1980's, that national majorities had within them a great amount of experience of informal, capitalist development. Is that not correct? How can we come to terms today with the cumulative experience which we have within ourselves?

[Piqueras] I might almost say that during the last few months of work I have felt, rather strongly, that a kind of popular candor is becoming more active and becoming a movement which expresses the enormous moral reserves which we have. A social leadership and movement and a political movement must display this candor, these moral reserves of the people.

Specifically and above all, very important experience has been derived from the struggle against poverty and from the women who have been active in the Glass of Milk movement and the soup kitchens. Certainly, this is a matter of survival. It is still not yet a matter of seeking a basic transformation of society or the eradication of poverty.

There is also a decentralizing movement, an authentically decentralizing movement. There is a very important feminist movement. Here I want to express very strong support for the women involved in the Glass of Milk and the soup kitchen movements. These are outstanding women, among them Susana, my wife, who are speaking up in support of a movement for the equality of the sexes. There is also a movement for the eradication of racism, which implies a profound intellectual and moral reform. These great tendencies, these social and civic movements, must be expressed politically.

[Lauer] What ideas are they expressing?

[Piqueras] We are engaged in an election campaign in this country which, as I see it, is not just one more development. Deep, subterranean movements are involved, expressing great values. All of these must be articulated through a political program. For example, speaking with all objectivity, I would say that Javier Perez de Cuellar is beginning to stimulate these kinds of democratic and healthy groups among the people. I do not want to idealize him. I believe that President Fujimori and his administration have been engaged for some years in stimulating the more authoritarian groups among the people. This has led to an increase in poverty, centralism, inequality between men and women, racism, and terrible things in the political life of the country, such as authoritarianism, political cronyism, corruption, terrorism, and the narcotics traffic as a means of political expression.

We are confronted with two movements—and I do not want to make this a Manichean issue of black or white—which are mobilizing different values. As far as the JPC [Popular Christian Youth] is concerned, there is a mobilization of these positive values, although I do not wish to idealize it.

[Lauer] Have we seen similar moments in the past?

[Piqueras] Yes. There have been such movements in the past. A previous example was the great eruption of the poor in the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's. However, unfortunately, this eruption was handled very badly. It took the form of what was called at the time the United Left [IU], a nonviable effort which failed and then collapsed. However, I believe that it is possible to say right now that Javier Perez de Cuellar and the Union for Peru are basically speaking for these healthy movements in the country.

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[Lauer] You mentioned Gandhi. Can you conceive of the possibility of this kind of thinking or movement or Gandhi type activism catching on in Peru?

[Piqueras] I am a nonviolent militant. I spent a year and a half at a Franciscan monastery in the United States, studying and reading a great deal in English. I have gone through a process of internal reorganization. What does "Satyagraha" or nonviolent militancy consist of? It is the use of force and truth. In the second place it signifies that means and ends must be congruent. It is impossible to use just any means to achieve an end. It seems essential to me that the clarity and transparency of the means should include the ends in embryo, and this is a great contribution of Gandhi and Martin Luther King. Gandhi had a fundamental obsession, and so did Martin Luther King. The most terrible thing for a people is passivity. At one time Gandhi and Martin Luther King said that the violence of a warrior is preferable to passivity. However, they set out a third kind of courage, or what Perez de Cuellar calls "Peruvians and fighting Peruvians facing Peruvians and passive Peruvians." That third kind of courage is nonviolence, which one can see—almost graphically—in a video recording of Gandhi's assault on the salt making plant, in the march to the sea, the "satyagraha" of the salt campaign in 1930, when Gandhi brought his people together and broke down English domination with a great, massive, and popular mobilization. A great deal of this comes from the fundamental idea that nonviolent militancy is the highest level of courage. Hannah Arendt says that, "The essential virtue of the politician is courage." That is, boldness. This implies a process of self government and a process for the government of a country. I would like to say something more. In my view politics linked to ethics or power linked to the mobilization of spiritual energy is a realistic concept. I am an enemy of a spiritual view which is not anchored in a profound sense of reality.

[Lauer] Whether with or without a sense of reality, until now political vision in Peru has never been closely linked to the idea of spirituality. Would this be a new proposal? Why has this not happened in Peru? We can accept—and I think that they are worthwhile—the ideas of Martin Luther King and Gandhi. In both cases these have been movements which have grown from within, born of a given set of circumstances and a temperament. Why have we in Peru failed to generate something of this kind until now?

[Piqueras] Because there has been a Latin American and international process, associated with the class war, this absolute error and scar in our culture. For example, there was this whole process which went from Cuba to El Salvador, at enormous social cost, involving authoritarian vanguard groups imposed on the people, which finally ended up with political negotiations. This led to democratic solutions, but the cost has been too great. What has the Shining Path movement brought to our country? It has led to extreme polarization. Shining Path and all of this Latin American error of class warfare must be thrown out. Nonviolent militancy implies a higher level of courage. It implies not leaving the field free for the enemy to dominate.

[Lauer] But the idea of class warfare—whatever we may think of it—is a political concept, not the conclusion of an analysis of reality. It is a political concept. What would take the place of class warfare in a program of militant pacifism?

[Piqueras] This would involve a people's campaign. Getting away from the context of the elite and placing oneself in the context of the broad masses of the people of the country. There is the struggle against factors like poverty, centralism, discrimination against women, and racism, which are great, national objectives for change in the country. These have to be accomplished through a nonviolent, active mobilization of the people. Do you think that Maria Elena Moyano, to cite a specific case, was not a nonviolent militant in practice and in action? But you have to give this concept a certain coherence of thought and of action.

[Lauer] And are you implying that various classes can participate in this mobilization?

[Piqueras] This is a very important matter. I believe in social conflict, and it would be a sin against historical clarity to deny it. However, what I do not believe in is changing the conflict into an organized, class war. I certainly believe in the ideas of national reconciliation, unity, integration, and solidarity among all Peruvians. I am an enemy of any confrontation between Peruvians. Now, some confrontation is necessary. This Goliath in the government today must be defeated by the nonviolent, active mobilization of the Peruvian people. A people's campaign to defeat the dictatorship must be a nonviolent, active mobilization. And Gandhi said two very important things: never undertake action if you are not sure of success. Secondly, when you undertake action, carry it out to its ultimate consequences. This implies putting your life on the line. No one takes my life away. I give it freely. These Peruvians and fighting Peruvians who are not prepared to give their lives for their cause have no strength. This is not a matter of seeking martyrdom. I certainly believe that if you are not ready to give your life for your cause, you are living a lie. The power derived from risking your own life and putting your own life on the line in support of your ideas and your efforts is an enormous force which can move mountains.

[Lauer] You have mentioned martyrdom, Martin Luther King, and Gandhi. What is the role of religion in all of this?

[Piqueras] I believe a great deal in the great religions of humanity. I am a religious pluralist. That was a beautiful expression of Gandhi's: "I am a Hindu, Christian, Muslim, and Jew." The great religions of humanity have profound values and contain the true God. I am a Christian and I am a Catholic. However, I believe that

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the great religions of humanity have great contributions to make to a nonviolent mobilization. Spiritual energy, which is different from psychic energy, is fundamental for this mobilization. I believe that the contribution of the great religions of humanity, this mobilization of spiritual energy, provides enormous force. Susana, my wife, and I are going to travel to a meeting of UNESCO-Catalonia, to a meeting of religious leaders and experts on the contribution of the great religions of humanity to a culture of peace.

[Lauer] And could you visualize a movement similar to that of Luther King or Gandhi in Peru, with community, national, ethnic, and religious leaders? Because until now what we have had is, on the one hand, politicians guided by well developed ideologies and a series of ideas and, on the other hand, leaders who have presented claims, who speak for survival, leaders who speak for the needs of the community. You are aiming at a higher level of awareness in some form.

[Piqueras] I believe in three main things. In the first place, what Martin Luther King and Gandhi display is a combination of very great political astuteness and realism. On the other hand there is a great mobilization of political and individual energy. These are two great, successful, social movements—both of them successful. I do not believe in that militant nonviolence called "Light, soft," which does not lead to success but to defeat. I believe in nonviolence, profoundly anchored in Peruvian realities, and in the powerful principle of reality.

[Lauer] And where are the people who are going to do this?

[Piqueras] This is my point of view. For the past year and a half I have been engaged in a period of introspection, or internal reorganization, and I have faced up to myself. Soon Susana and I will have been married for 25 years. I am 48 years old, and now is the time to deal with coherence. In the past I accepted reconciling a series of incongruities which I am no longer prepared to accept. This implies this great expression in the Gospel, "Gentle as a dove." This means a utopian dimension and is similar to the concept of "wise as a serpent," which means not only feet on the ground, but body on the ground. I am prepared to collaborate in the development of a great national, democratic movement, with a nucleus, a central component, of nonviolent militants.

Repeal of Law Seen Victimizing Ashaninkas

95SM0060A Lima LA REPUBLICA (DOMINGO Supplement) in Spanish 30 Oct 94 pp 2-3

[Article by Francisco Mattos: "Thousands Unable To Repent"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Ashaninkas [indigenous people] and farmers forced to belong to Shining Path "support bases" will be considered terrorists as of 1 November. The end of the time period for taking advantage of the repentance law places in danger thousands of Ashaninka indigenous people and farmers still under the power of the Shining Path movement through so-called "people's committees" and "support bases."

On 1 November the possibility of repentance comes to an end. President Alberto Fujimoro has said: "That is the day of the dead," a clear allusion to the fact that we are entering a new stage in the antisubversive struggle which will not distinguish Shining Path supporters from the people held captive by them.

The Penal Code provides that any person forced to commit crimes while under coercion is not legally responsible for his or her actions. Therefore, the thousands of families under the control of the Shining Path movement should receive special treatment.

The Amazon Center for Anthropology and Practical Use, or CAAAP, has made an urgent proposal to amend the repentance law to protect the more than 4,000 Ashaninkas still in the power of the Shining Path movement. The amendment proposal was sent to the National Commission for Human Rights which, in turn, forwarded it to Congress.

The leaders of the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Jungle, or AIDESEP, has also issued a warning about this problem. This association states that the repentance law should not be applied to people subject to coercion, "since they are not subversives but are being coerced, under pain of death, to collaborate with the supporters of the Shining Path movement."

The AIDESEP leaders stated: "This should be made quite clear. If a largescale, military type sweep is undertaken against Shining Path supporters, the situation facing the Ashaninka nation should be taken into account."

For their part experts from CIPA, the Center for Amazon Research and Promotion, have said that the Ashaninka people are not Shining Path supporters or subversives. This situation should be taken into account in view of the expiration of the repentance law and possible military clashes in the central jungle area.

They added: "The Shining Path movement is using indigenous people as cannon fodder. Everyone knows that. In case of an increase in military activity we should act in accordance with this situation."

They said that not taking into account the groups of people entrapped by Shining Path could result in the death of innocent civilians mistakenly identified as terrorists.

Several leaders of Ashaninka neighborhood patrols told a representative of LA REPUBLICA who prepared a recent report on the situation in the central jungle that, "The Ashaninka patrols will not take up arms against their families and their own brothers."

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An Ashaninka neighborhood patrol leader from Puerto Ocopa pointed out: "These people are not Shining Path supporters. We know that. Many of us who are now members of Ashaninka patrols have escaped from Shining Path, and we are fighting against it. What better proof could there be that our brothers who are still with the 'terrorists' are not like them?"

Other indigenous leaders from Poyeni, Betania, and Santa Rosita, communities on the banks of the Ene River, made similar comments.

The Other Side of the Coin

One of the legal instruments used by the government in its fight against subversion has been the Law on Terrorist Repentance, published in Decree Law 25499 and dated 12 May 1992.

This law was complemented by the regulations issued under it in Supreme Decree 015-93-JUS.

This law follows the antisubversive programs undertaken in particular in Germany, to break up the Red Army Faction (RAF); in Spain, against the ETA, the Basque separatist organization; and in Italy, against the Red Brigades. Peru adopted the technique of repentance as a means of "silent disassociation."

In simple terms the repentance law sets out the benefits of reduction, exemption, remission, or attenuation of punishment for those who voluntarily leave a subversive group and provide the security forces with information making it possible to capture other subversive leaders, facilitate the prevention of attacks, or provide information which may make it possible to dismantle a terrorist network. Nevertheless, from the very beginning these provisions have raised serious questions, although they have succeeded in achieving the desertion of about 5,500 terrorists and the capture of another, similar number, thanks to information provided to the authorities.

In the first place a number of Shining Path officials who were arrested have chosen to apply for the benefits of the repentance law. In doing that, they did not hesitate to implicate many people who were innocent of involvement with Shining Path, most of whom in fact were working against Shining Path objectives.

Specifically, it was the Shining Path organization which took the lead in this respect, ordering its members, when captured, to implicate community, neighborhood, and trade union leaders opposed to their plans.

This practice had two serious consequences: an unknown number of Shining Path supporters succeeded in going free, while many innocent people wound up in Peruvian jails with long years of imprisonment lying ahead of them.

Errors to Correct

Father Hubert Lanssiers, one of the best known defenders of human rights in Peru, estimates that there are no less than 200 cases of innocent people held in prison because of false confessions made by persons who have allegedly repented of what they did.

A report by the Legal Defense Institute documents another 177 cases of innocent people who are still held in prison for the same reasons.

One criticism has been that the repentance law permitted the participation of the armed forces as the institution which would receive those who repented. Furthermore, the armed forces would take part in the investigation of individual cases and would decide on the benefits to be extended in areas affected by the emergency.

It was evident at this point that repentance was not a sufficient guarantee in the investigation of the person who was going to be affected by the law. And it is no secret that this situation caused controversy.

A person who applied under the repentance law at a military base in the emergency area stated to a LA REPUBLICA representative: "No one knows why some people were released, why others had their sentences reduced, and why still others, strangely enough, were denied the benefit of repentance, despite the fact that the leaders whom we identified are still detained."

A fourth criticism, mentioned by many jurists, has been the practice of excluding from access to repentance those involved in aggravated terrorism. That is, high ranking Shining Path leaders, those who damaged installations providing essential services to the people, and those who were implicated in the death of other persons.

Nevertheless, this position was later made more flexible, which made it possible for some Shining Path leaders, such as Luis Arana Franco, to succeed in applying for consideration under the applicable legislation.

According to intelligence sources, Luis Arana Franco is reportedly the person who collaborated with the police in the arrest of Abimael Guzman Reinoso, the Shining Path leader, on 12 September 1992.

In exchange for this assistance, reliable sources state that Arana Franco was sent out of Peru for his own safety and was provided with a new identity for himself and his family. It is also reported that he receives a regular pension which makes it possible for him to live in his new country of residence.

Daniel Espichan Tumay, the former special prosecutor for cases of terrorism, has said that between five and seven subversive leaders have reportedly received treatment similar to that extended to Arana Franco.

Life and Liberty

Finally, another important question regarding Law 25499 and the regulations issued under it is the lack of security at the police and judicial level, as well as in the special penitentiary system approved for those who applied for benefits under the repentance law.

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At present, about 20 applicants for benefits under the repentance law are being held in the special prison located in the "Huampani" section of the Palace of Justice.

In this special prison these applicants under the repentance law live in contact with a number of hard line Shining Path supporters, some of whom were arrested on the basis of information which these applicants provided.

In a recent interview one of these applicants under the repentance law said: "Everyone knows that we have applied for the benefits of the repentance law. Many of us have received death threats inside the prison, and our families are also in danger."

The same source noted: "Some of us have not had the repentance law properly applied to our cases. There is also the possibility that some of us will be transferred to Yanamayo Prison, which would be like moving us from the frying pan into the fire."

A well known former political leader sentenced to jail for subversion and now serving out his sentence said a few months ago: "Despite what everyone thinks, in this prison Shining Path keeps up a flexible network of communications among its detainees. The network does not work as well as it formerly did, but documents regularly pass between Shining Path supporters and even reach the applicants under the repentance law."

Despite these criticisms, it is clear is that the repentance law has contributed significantly to breaking up most of the military and ideological apparatus of the Shining Path movement and has virtually caused the MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement] to disappear completely.

Nevertheless, the imprisonment of civilians on the basis of false information provided by those who have applied under the repentance law and the lack of a definition of the towns held by the Shining Path movement are errors which deserve to be corrected immediately. The cost to the effectiveness of the repentance law should not be based on the liberty and life of thousands of innocent people.

[Box, page 3]

Data on the Number of Persons Applying Under the Repentance Law

Total number of persons at the national level who have applied under the law, as of September 1994: 4,461.

Number of persons from the Shining Path movement seeking to apply for the benefits of the Repentance Law: 3,806.

Persons from the MRTA who applied under the Repentance Law: 655.

Total number of applicants under the Repentance Law in 1992: 201.

Total number of applicants under the Repentance Law in 1993: 1,397.

Total number of applicants under the Repentance Law in 1994: 2,863.

Place where the greatest number applied under the Repentence Law and number of applicants: Ucayali Front, 3,543 applicants.

Place where the smallest number applied under the Repentance Law: Iquitos, two applicants.

Source: Office of the Special Prosecutor for Cases of Terrorism.

Uruguay

President-Elect Denies Economic Surprises, Huge Devaluation

PY0612021694 Montevideo EL OBSERVADOR ECONOMICO in Spanish 29 Nov 94 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] Julio Maria Sanguinetti, who will be inaugurated on 1 March as president of the Republic, again ruled out the possibility that his administration would implement "a huge devaluation" and emphasized that "no surprises will be announced."

Sanguinetti also noted that the surfacing of a group headed by Danilo Astori as the Broad Front's majority group represents a "very favorable" event for Uruguayan politics.

During a news conference at the Colorado Party headquarters yesterday, Sanguinetti noted that on various occasions throughout the entire electoral campaign, he had confirmed that he was not planning "a huge devaluation, but merely developing a realistic foreign exchange policy and keeping the dollar exchange rate on a par with prices." In this regard, he pointed out that the over-valuation of local currency "must be gradually readjusted."

Sanguinetti added: "I believe the foreign exchange policy does not represent an isolated factor, but a channel expressing economic policy." He therefore said: "No surprises of this type will be announced, and we will stick to what has already been discussed."

Concerning the handling of dollar ratings, Sanguinetti emphasized: "These are extremely technical issues that I cannot seriously discuss now. In my opinion, the foreign exchange rate must closely keep pace with current market standings."

Astori's Vote

Asked about the large number of votes that Senator Danilo Astori received within the Broad Front, Sanguinetti acknowledged that this result "is very favorable and positive for Uruguayan politics."

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The Colorado Party leader said: "All of you are aware of my opinion that there are groups within the Broad Front with which we have strong disagreements." He noted: "The existence of voters favoring moderate and reasonable groups with which agreements may be reached is not only good for the government, but for our country."

Batlleist Forum sources told EL OBSERVADOR ECONOMICO that Sanguinetti was also pleased over a report that National Party leader Alberto Volonte had become his party's top leader. Volonte outnumbered ruling party candidate Juan Andres Ramirez by about 30,000 votes throughout our country.

Volonte and Sanguinetti periodically discuss political events over the telephone. They even did this during the electoral campaign.

Government Wants Mercosur Court for 'Controversies'

PY0612014994 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1803 GMT 5 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Montevideo, 5 Dec (TELAM-SNI)—Diplomatic spokespersons today highlighted the fact that Uruguay wants a court of justice within the Common Market of the South (Mercosur), but Argentina and Brazil, the two most important partners of the group, oppose this initiative.

The topic will be discussed today in Brasilia by diplomats of the three countries and Paraguay who are evaluating the Mercosur's institutional structure.

The spokespersons told the Montevideo newspaper EL OBSERVADOR ECONOMICO that Paraguay supports the Uruguayan initiative, but it does not have the approval of the market's big partners.

The Uruguayan Government attaches great importance to the guarantee that disloyal trade practices, such as the importing of products that have been subsidized in the place of origin or the implementation of taxes that affect the internal trade flows, will not take place.

Although a mechanism for the solution of controversies already exists within the Mercosur, Uruguayan officials consider it to be excessively slow and bureaucratic, and this is why they are proposing a court of justice.

Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle stressed last week that the court would take action in the cases of problems or controversies pertaining to trade and it would also be an interpreter of the Treaty of Asuncion, which created the Mercosur in March 1991.

Venezuela

Caldera Cited on Handling of Miami Summit, Results

PA0612193994 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1835 GMT 6 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Caracas, 6 Dec (DPA)—Although he spotlighted the initiative of U.S. President Bill Clinton in calling the Summit of the Americas, which will be held in Miami over the weekend, Venezuelan President Rafael Caldera said here today such meetings must be handled in the future by institutions such as the OAS.

The Venezuelan president said at a news conference Clinton's invitation should have been the outcome of a solidarity initiative of the Latin American countries. Caldera also recognized "the sincere desire" of the U.S. chief of state to hear the proposals of his Latin American and Caribbean colleagues (except for Cuban President Fidel Castro, who has not been invited).

According to Caldera, it would be an exaggeration to hold annual meetings such as the summit, which will gather 34 presidents from 9 to 11 December, but he insisted such events must be organized in the future and called by inter-American organizations, such as the OAS.

"More serious than the U.S. imperialist thinking is the colonialist thinking of certain Latin American countries," Caldera said in response to a question by a reporter. He said 20 years have passed since he last uttered that phrase, which still holds true today.

Regarding the results of the imminent summit, Caldera requested a "firm statement" in favor of the struggle against corruption, as well as a commitment to facilitate banking investigations to detect money laundering, stemming from the illegal use of public funds.

The government also hopes a pronouncement will be made on the continent's energy situation, although he anticipated a more specific document could only be achieved at a subsequent ministerial meeting in view of the size of the meeting.

Caldera said during his first news conference with foreign reporters the democratic strengthening of Latin America is evidencing specific measures in the struggle against poverty.

He ruled out that Caracas is using the forum to raise topics of bilateral interest, such as the dispute maintained with Washington over the exportation of gasoline, which, according to U.S. environmental rules, is unsuitable. Caldera strongly criticized protectionist measures based on "an alleged defense of the environment."

The Venezuelan chief of state said there could be a rapprochement among the chiefs of state and government in the Miami summit, because he said "the idea of a hemispheric common market exists" although some of them are not personally acquainted. He recognized, however, it would be hasty to speak of dates to talk about a free trade zone.

Rejects Deadline for Hemispheric Free Trade

PA0712040894 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0112 GMT 7 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Caracas, 6 Dec (NOTIMEX)—President Rafael Caldera told foreign reporters that

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Venezuela would reject the imposition of a deadline for the signing of a hemispheric free trade agreement at the Summit of the Americas. During the first press conference of his administration, Caldera reaffirmed his government's willingness to participate in any commercial opening efforts. He added, however, that it was more important to define a structure for North-South relations.

"We support the idea of free trade, but we reserve the right to protect our national interests with the adoption of our own development models, separate from protectionism and neoliberalism," Caldera said.

The leader, whose administration just completed 11 months, said that no nation should be forced, for the sake of liberalization, to halt measures that ensure its very existence and which meet the basic needs of its people.

While recognizing that several nations in the region did in fact improve their macroeconomics indicators though the adoption of neoliberal policies, he said it was also quite clear that critical poverty has worsened.

"I believe," he explained, "that each country has its own problems and its own solutions. Hence, we oppose the idea of obediently following recipes given to us by multilateral organizations."

As a result of this increasing poverty, he said, the IMF and the World Bank have had to recognize the high priority of promoting social development programs.

The Venezuelan president indicated that the Miami summit must come up with a plan of action that confirms the hemisphere's commitment to strengthen democracy based on efforts to fight poverty.

The chiefs of state and government leaders, he added, must commit themselves to "attacking this situation, which subjects a significant portion of the population to destitution throughout Latin America and the Caribbean."

"Our depressed economy and the devaluation of the bolivar against the currencies of neighboring countries has increased consumption of Venezuelan products," he told the 50 journalists present.

He said his country's proposals at the summit will seek secured energy sources, the strengthening of democratic governments, and the commitment to prosecute and punish corruption across the hemisphere.

Recalling the fact that Venezuela holds the largest oil reserves on the continent and its duty to meet the needs of other countries in emergencies, Caldera said that regulating this issue should be accomplished in peacetime.

That is why, he noted, we addressed the energy issue during preparatory meetings for the summit. Despite this, there is only an agreement for energy ministers and industry leaders to hold further meetings.

He announced later that "we will press the issue of corruption and the need to make a unified hemispheric commitment, not just a commitment to fight corruption in our own countries.

He said it is necessary to end the impunity which quite frequently "benefits those who commit crimes against public resources, regardless of whether they are government officials or not."

Chamber Approves Bill on GATT's Uruguay Round Accord

PA0712002594 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Dec 94

[From the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Chamber of Deputies has passed the bill approving the Marrakech Agreement, which will replace the GATT of 1947. Cecilia Cayonne has the story:

[Cayonne] From a legal standpoint, perhaps the most important result of the Uruguay Round that dealt with multilateral trade negotiations is that it represents a new guiding framework for international trade. Chamber of Deputies President Carmelo Lauria stressed the significance of this bill.

[Begin Lauria recording] This bill represents a very significant step toward this new phase called globalization of the economy, because it lays down the rules of the game in international trade and establishes the necessary balance for our economies to develop our exports. Exports do not comprise a simple international trade theory that only interests economists; they directly affect the economic development of nations. To export means to create jobs and to attract savings and investments from abroad. [end recording]

[Cayonne] As for access to the markets, the bill stresses that industrialized nations are committed to reducing their customs tariffs by 36 percent within six years, beginning with the implementation of the World Trade Organization, with a minimum reduction of 15 percent for each customs tariff. The agreement was unanimously approved, and the Chamber of Deputies decided to immediately send the bill to President Rafael Caldera for ratification.

Colombia Condemns Arrest of 10 Fishermen by National Guard

PA0612180394 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Dec 94

[From the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Colombia has condemned the arrest of 10 of its fishermen by the Venezuelan National

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Guard in the hamlet of Charo Island, Arauca Department. There was harassment during the arrest by the National Guard according to Lourdes Martinez, chief of border affairs in the Colombian department of Arauca. The arrest of the Colombians took place on 2 December while the fishermen sailed down the Arauca River, which crosses the Colombian-Venezuelan border.

Defense Panels Question Irregularities in Tank Contract

PA0512004494 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 1 Dec 94 p D-1

[Report by Luisana Colomine]

[FBIS Translated Text] One of the first conclusions of the Chamber of Deputies Defense Commission and Subcommission on Technology and Military Industry is that the contract signed between the National Defense Ministry and the Van Dam enterprise for the refurbishment of AMX-30 tanks "is filled with irregularities" and that, as of noon today, there is "overwhelming" evidence that the deal should have been canceled.

One of the most revealing accounts, and one that convinced nearly all of the lawmakers that "more than one person benefited" from this multi-million-dollar dance, was included in the testimony of Colonel Manuel Olivo Ruiz Zerpa, currently head of the Military Academy's Division of Planning and Evaluation and the person who presided over the inspection commissions between 1991 and 1993 under the command of Colonel Valmore Loaiza Badell who, at that time, headed the Army Weapons Service.

Ruiz Zerpa is considered "one of the harshest critics" of Van Dam's technical capabilities. During his testimony before the legislative commissions on 8 November, the Army colonel provided extensive information, as well as reports drafted following each inspection of those units he refused to receive.

Proof that "immeasurable damage was inflicted on government funds and on our Army," according to one of the deputies at the hearing, led congressmen to ask unpleasant questions: Why was this allowed to happen for four years without anyone in the military requesting an investigation? Why have the military authorities kept quiet?

For example, consider Col. Manuel Zerpa Ruiz's disclosure itself. In his own assessment, he explained that his "stubbornness" in this case could have cost him his military career, and he acknowledged he had to get support from Generals Suju Raffo and Rangel Rojas to ensure that his promotion to colonel was not affected. He also asserted that more than once his immediate superior "reprimanded" him for his decision not to receive the units.

For the commission, the important thing is to clarify who is telling the truth, because every colonel who has presided over an inspection commission has his own version. The latest version is that of Manuel Olivo Zerpa Ruiz.

Guyana

President Notes Elements of 'Successful' Summit of Americas

FL0612183294 Bridgetown CANA in English 1615 GMT 6 Dec 94

[All quotation marks as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec. 6, CANA—President Cheddi Jagan of Guyana has pointed to some of the developments that could constitute a "successful" Summit of the Americas, opening in Miami on Friday, December 9.

The Guyanese head of state, who leaves here Thursday for the three-day Summit, wants the creation of a Regional Development Fund (RDF) to "enhance the productive capacity and foreign exchange- earning capabilities" of the nations of the Caribbean and Latin American region.

His government is also proposing for consideration at the Summit of some 34 heads of state and heads of government, the setting up of a high-level working group on debt reform. This working group would have, as its mandate, he said, "a fresh look at the origins, structure and growth of debt and a creative approach to debt relief, its rationale being that the alleviation of the debt burden would liberate additional resources for development for mutual North-South benefit".

President Jagan, the sole executive head of state of the English- speaking Caribbean, said the success of the Summit of the Americas would depend on the "modalities for implementing decisions". Among those identified was the establishment of a Commission on the Americas that would have the responsibility of bringing together states in a dialogue under the "umbrella of the (proposed) Regional Development Fund to match United States resources with the needs of the recipient states and to promote the RDF as a model development programme".

His decision-implementing "modalities" also calls for:

—The proposed Working Group on Debt Reform to refine and address the technical aspects of debt alleviation.

—Creation of an "American Volunteer Development Corps" (AVDC), to be financed by an Americas Human Development Fund with contributions from governments, private sectors, the Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] and the sub-regional Latin American and Caribbean Development Banks.

—A Forests Monitoring and Management Training Fund, under the auspices of the "Rio Treaty", and

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administered through a regional institution, for example the IDB or the Organisation of American States (OAS).

—Exploring the possibility of activating the idea of a "pollution-free Caribbean zone"; and

The designation of December 9 (official start of the Summit of the Americas) as "Americas Freedom Day, symbolising the common attainment of independence and democracy by the nations of the Americas".

"Our greatest strength lies in trying to secure a premium from the United States for the legacy of democracy and political stability which we have collectively provided in what President (Bill) Clinton now refers to as the United States's "neighbourhood", as distinct from its "back-yard" he remarked.

In the view of Dr Jagan, any radical reform to North-South programme must include a "works programme for physical, social and cultural infrastructure, as we embarked upon the Roosevelt New Deal Administration at the time of the great Depression of the 1930s".

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